DAILY COMMERCIAL, published by Commercial Printing Company, No. 75 Fifth avenue.

TERMS OF THE DAILY: Single copy, 1 cent; delivered by carriers, 15 cents; subscribers by mail, one month, 50 cents; one year, $6 00, postage prepaid.

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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. XIV. PITTSBURGH, THURSDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 21, 1876. NO. 89.

The Daily and Weekly Commercial—NEWSPAPER DECISIONS.—1. Any one who takes a paper regularly from the Postoffice—whether directed to his name or another's, or whether he has subscribed or not—is responsible for the payment.

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FIRST EDITION.

CONGRESS.

SECOND SESSION.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 20, 1876.

SENATE.

Mitchcock introduced a bill supplemental to the act for the apportionment of Representatives in Congress among the several States according to the ninth census—referred to the Committee on Privileged Elections. It provides for an additional Representative in Congress from Nebraska.

The Senate reconsidered the vote by which the bill to establish the boundary of Montana was ordered to a third reading passed on the 8th of August last. The name of the new Territory which is to be created out of Dakota was then changed to Pembina to Huron, and the bill passed.

Chair laid before the Senate a communication from the Secretary of War, inclosing a report of Major Comstock's corps of engineers, showing the condition of the work improving the South Pass of the Mississippi. Ordered printed and to lie on the table.

Pension Appropriation bill passed with an amendment submitted by Mr. Hill, requiring the Commissioner of Pensions to hereafter incorporate in his annual report a statement showing the amount paid for additional pensions and the annual reduction in pensions.

A discussion upon the resolution of Mitchell, authorizing an investigation as to the appointment of Mr. Cronin Presidential elector in Oregon, was then resumed.

Bogy resumed his argument from the point where he was suspended yesterday. The Committee on Privileges and Elections of that body had got to be a most important committee. No man could put his foot into the Senate until he had passed the ordeal of that committee. No man could be a Senator whether elected by his Legislature or not, unless he was also elected by the Committee on Privileges and Elections, the Senator from Indiana (Morton). This committee reminded him (Bogy) of what is called in modern times a returning board. The Committee on Privileges and Elections had got to be the great returning board of the Senate. These returning boards were a new invention. It was conceded that Tilden had a popular majority of 300,000, but Hayes had three returning boards, so that to cipher the thing down, one returning board was worth just 100,000 votes.

Mr. Mitchell said if the Returning Board in Oregon could carry out its purpose, it would be equal to 45,000,000 of people.

He [Bogy] was glad that this Oregon matter had happened. It was a most fortunate thing, as it had compelled Senators on the other side to investigate all those questions, as they should do. The Oregon case was upon all the arguments both a *prima facie* case. If it had not happened, there would have been no end to the arguments on the other side about the returns from Louisiana and Florida. In committing a *prima facie* case, and Congress could not go behind the action of the returning boards of other States. Now it was plain that Congress had a right and power to carry out the sovereign will of the people.

Mr. Merton said the returning boards were not a new invention. They were as old as the Constitution of the United States. There was not a State in the Union which had not authorized one or more persons to count the votes and certify who was elected. In some States, as in Louisiana, these boards had discretionary and judicial powers. The decision of the returning board in some States, by the laws of the State, were made final. In Oregon the Governor had no discretionary power, no judicial power. He had no power to count out a fraudulent vote. In Louisiana the Returning Board had judicial power. It may have made a wrong decision, he would not discuss that question now; but the Governor of Oregon exercised powers not given him by the laws of the State.

Mr. Eaton said he would not count a vote which he believed thrown to elect a man who had treasonably given aid and comfort to the rebellion against President by the American people. He did not desire advantage of any wrong in this canvass of votes in the Senate. He argued that every ballot cast for Watts was no more than a blank piece of paper, and the Governor of Oregon, taking that view of the case, saw that he had power to give Cronin a certificate, as every vote given for Cronin was a proper legal vote. By a strict construction of the law of Oregon, the electoral college of electors for that State was not proper, though he [Eaton] thought the Governor should have certified to the election of two men, and only two men. He [Eaton] would not vote to place in the Presidential chair the candidate of the Democratic party upon the vote of the Democratic elector in Oregon. The political stomach of the Senator from Oregon, [Mitchell] seemed to be disordered now by a very small matter, but it could stand the gastric of South Carolina, Louisiana and Florida. He then read a recently published letter of John J. Long, Republican candidate for the Louisiana Legislature, declining to accept the seat awarded him by the Returning Board, on the ground that he had been fairly defeated by his Democratic opponent, and resuming his argument, said: A single witness like this man weighs down a dozen affidavits. Long said there was no intimidation. De Soto parish, but the Senator from Ohio [Sherman] declared there was. In conclusion, Mr. Eaton argued that the representatives of the people could not afford to do wrong. The President of the United States had been quoted as saying that he would deliver over the office to Hayes if he should be declared to be elected. The President had nothing to do with it. It would not do to talk about enforcing anything. The good sense of the people of this country would see that justice was done.

Mr. Eaton also argued that the President of the Senate had no more right to count the votes for President than one of the pages. The President of the Senate was not President of the joint convention, unless chosen by the joint convention to that position.

Mr. Sherman said he was not informed that the Returning Board had returned Mr. Long as elected to the Legislature from De Soto parish. He thought the gentleman had leaped before he came to the stile. He then referred to the affidavits of intimidation in De Soto parish, and resuming, said: The will of the people of Oregon had been fairly expressed in favor of the Hayes electors, and he was entitled to three votes from that State.

Mr. Bogy—Apply the same rule to Florida.

Mr. Sherman said he was perfectly willing to apply the rule to Florida, but those things were governed by the laws of the States. In Oregon, by the laws, had Florida been. If Governor Hayes should become satisfied he had not a majority of the legal votes of Florida and Louisiana, he would not accept the office. Governor Hayes should be clear that Governor Hayes had not received that majority he [Sherman] would not have him accept the office.

Mr. Sherman then argued that the Louisiana Returning Board was a legally constituted body, and is had not been shown that the board made a false return. He did not desire to see Governor Hayes have the benefit of any wrong, and he was satisfied that he spoke the sentiments of Governor Hayes when he said if that gentleman should be convinced that the Returning Board of Louisiana or Florida acted wrong, he would make no claim to the office of President. There was an absence of any proof that these Boards had acted wrong; as returns from those States now stood, they were just as much entitled to be counted as the returns from New York or Ohio, and he could show from evidence now before the Senate that the vote of the State of Louisiana, in fairness, should be counted for Governor Hayes.

After an executive session, adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The Speaker stated he had information that there was a gentleman in the city, who was a bearer to the people of this country of a communication from the Irish nation, congratulating the American people upon this their centennial year.

Mr. Holman thereupon asked unanimous consent to offer a resolution reciting that Mr. J. O'Connor Power, M. P., had been deputized to present to the people of the United States, the congratulations of the Irish nation on the centenary of American independence, and referring the subject of his mission to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, with instructions to report what action should be taken in the premises.

After a short discussion the resolution was adopted.

The report of the Judiciary Committee on the question of the power of the committees of Congress to compel the production of telegrams was made with a report, and asserts that right.

A resolution was offered by Mr. Hurd, from the minority of the committee, which makes the same assertion but requires a description of the telegrams to be given.

A substitute for both of them was offered by Mr. Knott, Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, declaring that telegraphic communications have no more privilege than oral or other communications, and must be produced when called for.

A long discussion ensued. Among the notable speeches made was one by Mr. Garfield, protesting that the telegraph should be as sacred as the postoffice, and one by Mr. Hewitt, declaring that the sanctity of the postoffice was more imaginary than real, and that Swift's letters had been constantly opened in the New York postoffice.

Mr. Hewitt went on to say that while he subscribed to the doctrine that private communications of individuals should be protected, he wished to say on this occasion that there was no purpose on the Democrat side to prevent the telegraph being opened freely on both sides, and he thanked Heaven that there was no communication bearing his name that he was not willing and would not be glad to have published, and he had already authorized the President of the Western Union Telegraph Company to produce every telegram bearing his signature. [Democratic applause].

Mr. Garfield suggested that it was the duty of the gentleman [Hewitt] to ask for an inquiry, and he [Garfield] would assist him in it.

Mr. Wood, of New York, favored the report of the committee, and opposed Mr. Hurd's amendment as being tantamount to a defeat of the Louisiana investigation.

Finally Mr. Hurd's resolution requiring the subpœnas to describe the specific telegrams to be produced was defeated, yeas 91, nays 122, and Mr. Knott's substitute was adopted without division.

Mr. Platt then asked unanimous consent to offer a resolution for inquiry into the charges made by Mr. Hewitt against the New York postoffice, but objection was made by Mr. Luttrell.

On motion of Mr. Phillips, the Senate amendment of the House bill for the sale of Pottawatomie lands in Kansas was non-concurred in.

Mr. Chittenden asked leave to introduce and have referred to the Banking Committee a bill for funding the legal tender notes, but objection was made by Mr. Holman.

The bill provides, first, that the Secretary of the Treasury be and is hereby authorized to withdraw, as soon as the necessary preparations can be made, the legal tender notes of the United States, whenever presented by holders thereof, and issue therefor, dollar for dollar face value, coupon or registered bonds of the United States in the spirit of the original Legal Tender act; provided, that the bonds authorized by this act shall be payable in gold at the expiration of forty years from the first of January, 1877, and bear interest at the rate of four per cent. per annum, payable quarterly in gold. Second, that the bonds authorized by this act shall be available for deposit in the Treasury of the United States for banking purposes under the provisions of the various laws relating to national banks. Third, that the legal tender notes received in exchange for bonds under this act shall be destroyed under such regulations as the Secretary of the Treasury may prescribe.

The conference report on the bill to provide for the expenses of the investigating committees was made by Mr. Holman, discussed and agreed to.

Adjourned.

LOUISIANA.

Continuation of the Investigation—More Evidence of the Mixed Variety.

NEW ORLEANS, December 20.—Before the House committee to-day, George A. Brandtrupt was examined, and told a story of having been abused by colored men for voting the Democratic ticket.

Charles Cassanave, a member of the Returning Board, was examined at considerable length. He said in reply to a question that he would produce the papers of the Returning Board if the other members would agree to it; that they threw out the votes of two parishes, and those of several polls in other parishes, on account of intimidation before and during the election, and of irregularities in conducting the election.

General Thos. C. Anderson was recalled, and presented a statement to the committee. He said it was the original statement, signed by all the members of the Returning Board, showing the vote for Presidential electors in the State—the aggregate vote, not by parishes; had ordered the clerk to make out a complete statement of the vote by parishes to be filed with the Secretary of State, but didn't know whether it had been done or not; as we got through at 2 o'clock we sent it to the clerk market "compiled, to be immediately entered on the list;" when polls were rejected, those polls were marked "rejected," and sent to the clerk; we could not make a complete list of the vote by parishes in time to promulgate according to law; but ordered the clerk to do it afterwards; was absent when three parishes were being compiled by the board; the clerk made the addition of votes, leaving out the polls rejected—the board revised those additions. In the statement handed to the committee it is evident that figures and letters had been changed, which was explained by General Anderson, saying that some of the parishes had been misplaced by the clerk, but that he didn't remember well how the mistake occurred; that the clerk had satisfactorily explained it at the time; no one was present in the room where the board was working on the night before promulgating, except members of the board and counsel, when brought in to give legal advice; witness produced a memorandum of polls rejected by the Returning Board, with reasons therefor. The list shows fifty-four polls in twenty parishes thrown out, and the parishes of Grant and East Feliciana.

In answer to interrogatories, General Anderson said: We made our compilations from the consolidated statements of supervisors of registration, and didn't consider any returns made by the commissioners of election; if a supervisor made returns with three or four polls left out, we counted only those returned; considered no returns of commissioners; refused to receive evidence of certified copies of returns of commissioners of election filed in district courts; in raising the vote for electors in Madison parishe, we had the evidence of the commissioners of election showing that those elections received the number of votes given them; don't know which party received a majority at the polls there not; don't know that every poll thrown out gave a Democratic majority; don't know that the Supervisor of East Baton Rouge made his protest after making his returns to the board.

The Chairman read to the witness instructions to bring all the papers before the committee that were mentioned in the subpœna served on him, and said that the committee desired only to inspect the original documents, and that the board need not part with them; that the clerks of the committee had been at work eight days copying the originals and were not yet near through, and that it was not necessary; the committee should see the papers as soon as possible. The witness replied that he should submit the matter to the board, and read a communication stating that the board refused to give up the original papers as they were recorded for the inspection of the General Assembly only.

The Senate committee met at half-past eleven. The statement of votes rejected in each parish and at what polls rejected was received from the Returning Board.

Senator McDonald made a motion that a subpœna *duces tecum* issue to the Returning Board for all protests and affidavits accompanying the consolidated statements of the supervisors, also for returns of commissioners of each poll in each parish.

Senator Howe, Chairman, said he could not understand what figure the protests and affidavits which formed the basis of the action of the Returning Board could cut in this investigation unless the committee proposed to review the action of the board in an appellate capacity.

Senator McDonald said it was not the province of the committee to determine anything. The committee wanted only the facts for the information of the body from which the committee derived its authority. The committee ought to know the facts upon which the board rejected the votes, which, by their statement received, they admit they did reject. The question of calling for other documents of the Returning Board was discussed at length by the committee.

Benjamin James, constable of Ouachita parish, and a deputy United States marshal at the time of the election, testified to having been bulldozed on November 7th, by a large body of white men, while on the way from Monroe with the ballot-box for Logtown precinct. He was shot in the arm and head, and robbed of his horse, revolver and ballot-box. No Republican meetings were allowed to be held in the parish, except when troops were present. The election was not, in his opinion, fair and possible.

Physicians' certificates were presented that Eliza Pinkston and Eaton Logwood, colored, of Ouachita parish, were suffering from gun-shot wounds so be unable to appear before the committee for examination. The Democrats asserted yesterday that Mrs. Pinkston had been seen running up the Custom House steps.

George Shelton, colored, of Ouachita parish, testified that he was shot by William Howard, white, on account of being a Republican; being shot in the left breast and twice in the right; that after being shot he went to a friend's house, who put him out on the gallery for fear the whites would come in and kill him; he also testified to general intimidation by the whites, who had guarded the roads on the day of the election and broken up skiffs to prevent the blacks from going to the polls; he had voted the Democratic ticket at the election, but thought his heart would jump out of his mouth when he did so; other colored men had also voted the Democratic ticket at the instigation of leading Republicans to save their lives.

Jane Logwood, colored, testified: Am the wife of Eaton Logwood, of Ouachita; either on the first or third of last September, Captain Theobold, with ninety armed men, came to see me and my husband; Eaton, who told them he wasn't there; Theobold said, "Tell him to come and see me or I'll kill him;" knew Theobold, George Phillips and A. Logan, but none of the others of the party; next Friday four men came and searched the house for Eaton; after they left she went down to the woods and told him he had better leave or he would be killed; next day Theobold's company came back, searched the house, fields and adjacent woods for him; failing to find him, Theobold told witness to tell Eaton to come and see him next morning, or he would consider him his enemy and kill him, as he had heard Logwood wanted the negroes to arm and whip his [Theobold's] company; they then left; on the 10th of September was sitting on the bed in the house, and heard a gun fired; got up and started to the door, met Eaton, who said, "Give me my gun;" I told him to run, which he did; just then I heard another shot, and going out at the door met my brother-in-law, Primus Johnson, with his baby in his arms, who said: "Oh, my poor sister, I'm killed," and fell down dead [here witness burst into tears; after a moment she continued]: he was shot in the side; didn't see the men who did it; Johnson was sitting on a lumber pile in the front yard when shot; he was a Baptist minister; after her husband returned, Captain Theobold came to see him; said he was sorry for him, and sent for a doctor to dress his wounds; Captain Phillips and three other white men also came to see him; her husband asked the Government troops at Monroe for protection, and they guarded him eleven days afterward, and then took him to Monroe; her husband had twenty-three acres of land and some cattle; he had four balls in his shoulder, one in his arm and one in his right side.

[NOTE—The committee heard a great mass of other testimony last evening, one colored woman testifying to having been whipped in order to make her disclose the hiding place of her husband, who had her person outraged after the whipping. This was done by the same gang of white Democrats that murdered Henry Pinkston and his child, and secured but a very short time before. The crowded state of our columns prevents the publication of this testimony in full.—ED. COM.]

FOREIGN NEWS.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

The Eastern Question.

THE LONDON "TIMES" ON THE CONFERENCE.

LONDON, December 20.—The *Times'* leading editorial on the conference says: "It is interesting to observe how far the Conservatives, as well as Liberals, have traveled from their original position respecting the Eastern question. A few days ago we indicated that Russia would abandon her design for the occupation of Bulgaria if the conference should provide some other effective guarantee, and we also mentioned the suggestion that the duty of police should be undertaken by troops of some small State like Belgium. We have yet to see whether Belgium will consent to undertake so delicate a task, but in the mere fact that the Powers will allow such schemes to be laid before the conference, we find a striking illustration of the distance to which the friends, as well as the enemies of Turkey have been driven by force of events. It may be said that such arguments are futile, because they leave out of account the will of Turkey herself; but unconquerable resistance on the part of Turkey is out of the question, if she be not permitted to believe that she would have England's support in case of a conflict."

The article concludes as follows: "If the Marquis of Salisbury should be instructed to tell the Sultan he would forfeit the support of England by unconquerable resistance, the new Grand Vizier would, we believe, see the necessity of submission and the last danger of war would pass away."

A second editorial article in the *Times* ridicules the idea of Belgian occupation, and says if peace is to be preserved by a union of the Powers, they must be resolve to act for themselves as well as to deliberate.

THE OCCUPATION OF BULGARIA.

CONSTANTINOPLE, December 20.—Great Britain's reply to the Russian proposal regarding the occupation of Bulgaria by a police force, has not yet been received here. It is understood, however, that Switzerland will also decline to act.

THE SULTAN DESIRES A SATISFACTORY SOLUTION.

CONSTANTINOPLE, December 20.—The imperial edict appointing Midhat Pasha Grand Vizier, declares that the appointment is made because the Sultan desires a satisfactory solution of the pending questions, which confirmation, in the meantime, before the whole world, the legitimate rights and interests of the Empire.

SERVIAN SENTRIES FIRE UPON AN AUSTRIAN GUNBOAT, AND SCARE THE SERVIAN MINISTRY INTO RESIGNING.

BELGRADE, December 20.—The ministry have resigned in consequence of a misunderstanding which arose yesterday between the sentries of a fortress and an Austrian monitor.

VIENNA, December 20.—The *Political Correspondence* says: While the Austrian monitor Maros was passing a fortress at Belgrade yesterday, several musket shots were fired from the fort against the vessel. The Austrian Consul General, Prince Wiede, who was on board, immediately ordered the Maros to advance and take position before Belgrade. The Maros took position, and ordered that her turret was being loaded, the shell accidentally exploded, seriously wounding one ensign and four sailors, and slightly wounding seven others. The sentries at the fort again fired their muskets, supposing the monitor was firing on the fort. Prince Milan sent Minister Ristics to the Austrian Consul with apologies, and informed him that the commander of the fort had been dismissed. This is the misunderstanding referred to in the Belgrade dispatch as having caused the resignation of the Servian ministry.

THE FEELING IN TURKEY

LONDON, December 20.—A telegram from Constantinople says the appointment of Midhat Pasha is very favorably received by the entire people. The Softas remain quiet, while willing to accept reform, resolutely object to any concessions detrimental to the dignity of toe Empire.

THE VERY LATEST.

LONDON, December 21.—The Vienna correspondent of the *Times* says: A semi-official telegram from St. Petersburg announces that the conference will meet on December 23d. One of its first tasks will be to secure the prolongation of the armistice. The reports that such prolongation had already been agreed upon are untrue, but both Russia and Turkey have been sounded on the subject, and neither was found to object. Some slight difference may arise as to the length of time for which the armistice should be extended, but in Russia's present conciliatory disposition it does not seem probable that she will make any great difficulties.

The Russian Telegraphic Agency says it is predicted in official circles at St. Petersburg that the effect of the preliminary conference will be finally pacific. The results arrived at, because of the wide divergence of interest which had to be reconsidered, are not altogether what might have been desired, but Russia will have obtained what was possible, and will therefore be places a good understanding among the Powers above consideration.

The *Times*, in a leading editorial, says "the plenipotentiaries have a most delicate, most difficult part of their task, by agreeing that some kind of occupation is necessary. Midhat Pasha must soon pronounce his decision on their proposals. We fear the Turkish ministers are inclined to take the hazard of absolute resistance. They seem to think they can foil the conference by pluming Europe into a tremendous war. Unhappily they still believe England will be forced to aid Turkey. Midhat Pasha cannot be too clearly warned that Turkey will stand alone if she rejects the advice of the conference. As England is partly responsible for that advice, our diplomatic relations with the Porte should be suspended if it be rejected. Turkey would then have to settle with Russia. Although Russian occupation of Bulgaria would be a calamity, no English government would shrink from it rather than prevent it. The wisdom of submission on the part of Turkey is so evident that we can't dismiss the hope of peace. But the English Government must speak, so as to leave no vestige of excuse for trusting to English aid."

FOREIGN NOTES.

The steamships The Queen and America, from New York, have arrived out.

The Greek Chamber of Deputies has unanimously passed the bill raising the strength of the military forces to 25,000 men.

Minister Washburne did not present to the Duke Decazes, on Tuesday, the apologies of President Grant for the arrest of Captain Aufry at Philadelphia.

Charles Brent, the Louisville forger, has been delivered into the custody of an English detective designated by United States Minister Pierrepont to receive him, and left last night for Queenstown, to embark for the United States.

The steamer City of Bristol, which left Liverpool December 6 for Philadelphia, has put back to Queenstown. She lost her foremast and bowsprit and all attached. During the gale at noon on the 14th inst., the second officer and four seamen were washed overboard and drowned.

The Financial Committee of the French Senate have agreed to the proposal to reinsert in the budget grants of $40,000 for increasing the stipends of the clergy, and $25,200 for scholarships in seminaries, these items having been stricken out by the Chamber of Deputies. The committee, however, have accepted the suppression of two other grants of smaller amounts for religious purposes. M. DuClerie will move the appointment by the Senate of a delegation to confer with the Financial Committee of the Deputies on the contested points.

The morning journals of Cincinnati have chartered and will run regularly hereafter a fast train to Indianapolis, leaving the first named place at three A. M., and arriving at the Hoosier capital at seven A. M.

SECOND EDITION.

WASHINGTON.

TEXAS PACIFIC RAILROAD BILL.

Favorable Action in House Committee

ACTION EXPECTED AT THIS SESSION.

Wade Hampton's Proposed Memorial.

Speculations as to Action Thereon.

Action of the Administration in the Brooks-Garland Case.

PROPOSED JOINT ELECTORAL COMMITTEE.

Prospect of Its Early Appointment Not Flattering.

Democratic Smelling Committees Not in Accord.

These in the South Clamorous for the Production of Telegrams,

While Cox's Men in New York Are Not So Anxious.

Mr. Orton Will Furnish the Documents.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 20, 1876.

The Texas Pacific Railroad.

The House Committee on Pacific Railroads to day discussed the Texas Pacific Railroad, and practically agreed to favorable action. The subject will be again considered to-morrow, and it is intimated that a bill will be prepared and reported as early as to provide for the completion of that transcontinental route. The friends of the measure are quite sanguine of obtaining action at this session. It is the intention of the committee to further the matter so far as they are concerned.

The Proposed Memorial of Wade Hampton.

To Congress, setting forth his pretentions to the Executive office of South Carolina, and urging action, is generally approved by the Democrats, but the Republicans will in a great measure act in accord with the Administration on the question. A Cabinet officer, in speaking of the matter, said if they ever seriously contemplated such action with the expectation of influencing the Executive, it was as extraordinary the proposition of Hampton presented in the President some days ago through Hewitt. If Hampton should memorialize Congress, the House could do nothing more than give expression of opinion, as it has no mandatory power as regards a question of law or policy on the part of the Executive. A sagient correspondent has alluded to the Brooks-Garland controversy in Arkansas, and the action of the President in that case, where he recognized one government, and subsequently another, as a precedent for action after the action of the House. In that case, as stated by the same Cabinet officer, the President had acted upon a direct appeal to him, but not finally, as he submitted the questions and papers to Congress for their action in the matter, which he followed. Hampton's appeal in this case would be to the Executive, and not to Congress. Hayes accepted the third prize.

John Inman, a guard at the Indiana State prison at Jeffersonville, who had a wife and six children in that city, has eloped with Miss Sarah Bailey, a prepossessing girl of nineteen. Inman's father has also left the deserted wife and children to his home in Martin county, and paid all of the considerable indebtedness contracted by his wayward son.

There is trouble in the celebrated banking firm of Flood & O'Brien, in San Francisco, and it is stated that Mr. Mackey, one of the members, will secede and join forces with the Bank of California, carrying with him the controlling interest in the consolidated Virginia mine. Both parties are expected to be present at the meeting of the mining company on the 11th of January.

A New Orleans special says: A dispatch from Fort Davis says the Mexican revolutionists have captured a Mr. Miller, an American banker, at Chihuahua, and demanded $8,000 in gold as a ransom for his release. Colonel Andrews, with a force of infantry, cavalry and artillery has gone to the rescue. The revolutionists are importing ammunition, and have threatened to shoot Miller if they can't hold him. A fight is inevitable.

Sheriff Manning, of Finck county, Miss., was arrested at Jackson, Miss., a day or two since, for the murder of a man named Harvey, of Louisville, at Austin, Miss., seven years ago. Deputy Manning and three men were also arrested at Austin as accessories. The men have confessed to their share of the murder, and insist in saying that Sheriff Manning killed Harvey.

Mr. James, Postmaster of New York city, has sent the following to Hon. A. S. Hewitt, at Washington: "I am informed that you charge, on the floor of Congress, that your letters passing through this office are or have been opened before reaching your hands. Do you charge that it is or has been actually or probably done in this office? If so, please supplement your charge with a motion for an immediate investigation, as I pronounce such an accusation utterly and absolutely false."

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH.

Probabilities for To Day.—Slightly warmer southerly to westerly winds, with slight changes in pressure, and partly cloudy weather, except occasional snow.

Let the tyrant Grant tremble. The Virginia Senate yesterday passed resolutions condemning the unwarranted interference in the affairs of South Carolina.

The tugboat Jacob L. Neafie, while off the Highlands about ten miles from shore, yesterday morning, blew up, killing the captain and a deck hand. The steward, engineer and firemen were rescued.

The Pennsylvania Coal Company sold 80,000 tons of Pennsylvania coal in New York yesterday; 25,000 tons of lump, steamboat size and egg brought $2 81½; 47,000 tons of stove, $3 42½@3 47½; 8,000 tons of chestnut, $3 07½@3 15.

There was a collision between trains on the elevated railway in New York, yesterday, caused by a misplaced switch. The fireman on one of the locomotives was badly injured internally, while a number of passengers foolishly jumped to the ground and were badly hurt.

The people of Little Rock are talking of forming a vigilance committee to operate against the thieves and incendiaries who are believed to be banded together in that city. A large force of watchmen had been employed by the property owners to guard the business portion of the city.

A serious collision occurred yesterday afternoon between a passenger and mixed train on the Baltimore and Gardner Railroad, near Princton station, by which one person was killed, three fatally injured and twenty more or less hurt. The responsibility for the accident is unknown, as both conductors claim to have been running on time.

A number of prominent business men of Virginia City have signed an address to the Nevada Senators, Messrs. Sharon and Jones, asking their co-operation in obtaining the passage by Congress of a bill providing for the issue of legal tender silver notes, with a view to restoring the value of silver as a circulating medium.

The steamboat express train going West on the Great Western Railway of Canada, due at Toronto at 2:45 A. M., ran off the track near Dorchester station. The following passengers were more or less injured: William Smith, of Strathroy; Mrs. Thomas Kane, of Iowa; Miss Jenkins of Windsor, and Mr. McGarvey, of London. No one was killed.

The South Carolina Senate yesterday decided, by a strict party vote, to adjourn with the Republican House *sine die* on the 22d inst. The Tax and Appropriation bills passed second reading in the Senate. The tax levy aggregates seventeen mills, exclusive of local taxes, and is equal to $2,010,000. Resolutions passed the Democratic House yesterday, instructing Governor Hampton to issue a proclamation calling upon citizens to pay to such persons as he may designate twenty-five per cent. of the State and county tax for the last fiscal year, and the person paying such tax shall receive certificates receivable for taxes hereafter.

SAMMY'S PARDNER.

An Interview with Governor Hendricks—Why the Democracy Are Excited—The Object of the 8th of January Conventions—Backbone to be Furnished the House of Representatives—No Armed Resistance Contemplated, but Tilden Must be Inaugurated.

INDIANAPOLIS, December 20.—The *Journal* of to-morrow will contain an interview with Governor Hendricks, the leading points of which are as follows: The Governor said the men who voted for Governor Tilden believe he was elected, and they are greatly excited at the possibility that he is to be deprived of the office and another to be inaugurated who was not elected, by means of party machinery anti-republican in its character, and even by disregard of the local law in its organization, and by the fraudulent exercise of its power. They do not believe that under republican institutions it is possible that no inquiry can be made into the conduct of four men who undertook to control the Presidential election by fraudulent means. They believe that it is the duty of the House of Representatives to see that the proposed wrong is defeated, even should the Senate attempt to maintain it. The opinion prevailes generally, I believe universally, among them that the House of Representatives is clothed with equal power with the Senate in the decision of all questions which arise during the progress of the count of the electoral vote, and that it would be a usurpation in flagrant violation of the rights of the people should the vote be counted and questions decided by the presiding officer of the Senate in defiance of the rights of the House.

Governor—What public significance should be attached to the action of the Democrats in calling public meetings in the Northwest, and especially in this State; and as your supposed connection with it has given rise to much comment, will you state whether, in your opinion, either party would under any circumstances be justified in resorting to force to secure the Presidency?

Governor Hendricks—The fact that this power above alluded to is claimed for the President of the Senate and its exercise by him is threatened, has greatly contributed to excite popular feeling. In this condition of the public mind the Democratic Committee of the State issued the call for the convention of the 8th of January, not for the purpose, as I suppose, of making any threats, or of organizing any resistance to authority, but for the purpose of making a public expression against threatened invasions of popular rights, and of giving the House of Representatives an assurance of support in the exercise of its constitutional rights and prerogatives. There is no purpose, so far as I am informed, of going further. In further answer to your inquiry, I should in regard force as a means to be contemplated to secure the Presidency. So far as the 8th of January convention is concerned, I am very sure that its reliance, its only reliance to secure the results of the Presidential election, will be upon the force and power of public opinion in support of the right and against the wrong, and in support of the House of Representatives in the assertion and exercise of its constitutional powers, as those powers have been defined and settled in the uniform practice and in the adoption of the twenty-second joint rule, and the passage by the Senate of Governor Morton's bill at the last session. It is perhaps proper to add that, should the House positively assert its right to participate in the count, and should that right be denied and refused by the Senate, supported by the Executive power, we would stand in the presence of serious dangers, not because of any party movements, but because of an conflict in the machinery of the Government without any tribunal for its adjustment. I observe in some newspapers the statement that a secret political society is being organized in this State, the purposes of which are dangerous to the peace of society. I think I am in a position to know best in this matter, and say such movement is not in this State, or any portion of it, and I feel confident in saying that the report is without foundation in truth. It is wholly false, as I believe, and as I think I know, and has its origin with bad men and for partisan and bad purposes. The contest in this State next summer and fall must be, on the part of Democrats and Conservatives, eminently fair and open. There is no motive, and, I am sure, there is no purpose to depart from that policy.

THE INDIANS.

Two Men Murdered and a Train Despoiled in Wyoming.

HOT CREEK, WY., December 20.—Four freight trains, accompanied by five men, were attacked by Indians in camp on Indian creek, six miles north of here, about nine o'clock last night. Three of the party escaped and arrived here at midnight, terrified and half crazed. The detachment of soldiers and a party of citizens repaired to the scene of the fight early this morning, and found the bodies of the two men, D. C. Stephens, of Salt Lake, and a German named Fritz, from Colorado, horribly mutilated with a butchers' cleaver taken from one or the wagons. The contents of the wagons were scattered over the ground, flour and corn in piles as it had been emptied from the sacks. Six horses were missing, and over forty bullet holes were found in one wagon. The shells found are of Sharp's rifle cartridges. The dead were brought here and buried.

Two hundred and forty-eight Arapahoe and Sioux Indians from the agency, in charge of Louis Richards, a half-breed, passed here on Sunday *en route* to join Crook.

FIRE RECORD.

A considerable portion of the town of Mayle Lick, Kentucky, was destroyed by fire yesterday morning, involving a loss of about $12,000, principally on uninsured property.

The loss by the fire in Little Rock is now stated at $160,000, and the insurance less than half. That city has, within six weeks, lost $350,000 by fires, the origin of all of which is shrouded in mystery.

Nothing new was developed by the Senate or House investigating committees in Florida, yesterday. The principal House committee has gone to Jacksonville.

Keystone Flour.

Those of our readers who desire to secure the best flour in the market, at the lowest rate, should purchase the Keystone Flour. This brand of flour has never failed to give entire satisfaction to all who have tried it. The only firm in the city handling this brand is Allen Kirkpatrick & Co., the well-known family flour, feed, produce and seed dealers, No. 271 Liberty street. They make prompt shipments, both in sacks and barrels. Their stock of fine New Orleans molasses is very large, and they are selling at the lowest prices. TuThs

☞ *Advertisements on this page, under the several heads of* WANTED, FOR SALE, FOR RENT, *&c., will be inserted at transient rates only*—TEN CENTS *per line for each insertion. No advertisement less than* FIFTY CENTS.

WANTS.

WANTED—SITUATION—GOOD WET NURSE—Apply at office of POOR BOARD, 177 Fourth avenue.

WANTED—$6,000 ON FIRST MORTGAGE property worth $30,000. Only principals need apply. Address "MONEY," Commercial Office. TTh

WANTED—EVERYBODY TO USE Abel's Vermin Exterminator. It has no equal for banishing Rats, Mice and Roaches. Sold by all druggists.

WANTED—TO OIL MEN—POSITION AS Superintendent, etc., by a gentleman of experience in the oil business. Address BUSINESS, care Box A, Greenville, Pa.

WANTED—SITUATION—BY A YOUNG man of 19 years of age; is a coach painter by trade, but is willing to engage in any other honorable employment. Address W. H. B., Commercial Office.

WANTED—TO SELL OR EXCHANGE—For Pittsburgh property, a House in Philadelphia, with all modern improvements. Terms liberal. Address J. E. MITCHELL, 245 Pine street, Philadelphia.

WANTED—A SITUATION—HAVE HAD considerable experience as clerk, &c., in several branches of business, and can produce first-class references. Moderate salary will be satisfactory. Address "F," Lock Box 535, city.

WANTED—MEN AND WOMEN—IN every part of the Union to introduce, upon the most desirable plan, an important discovery that will meet with favor in every family. Men of genteel appearance can average $20 to $70 per week profit. Goods pay 400 per cent. Send stamp for papers or 50c for $1 sample. O. H. RAY & CO., Chicago, Ill.

DIVORCES FOR CITIZENS OF ANY State legally procured under a late law, for incompatability, &c. Residence or attendance at court not required. Fee after Divorce. Circular free. REED'S AMERICAN LAW AGENCY, Pike's Opera House, Cincinnati, O. TuThs

PERSONAL.

PERSONAL — SONNIE: PROPOSITION made by Buz satisfactory. Telegraph Ralph at once.

NOTICES.

NOTICE TO VENDERS OF FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.—All persons found selling fruit and vegetables from unbranded boxes and baskets (used as measures) will be dealt with according to law.

W. W. TYSON,
County Sealer of Weights and Measures,
No. 41 Federal street.
Office Hours—8 A. M. to 5 P. M.

REWARDS.

$2 REWARD—FOR A SCOTCH TERRIER —Very young, about twice the size of a rat terrier, jet black. Any one will receive the above reward by leaving the dog at FIFTH NATIONAL BANK.

FOR RENT.

FOR RENT—ROOMS—TWO FURNISHED Rooms for gentlemen, at 285 Penn avenue.

FOR RENT—WAREHOUSE—A TWO-story brick warehouse, 150 First avenue, immediate possession given. Inquire of W. W. THOMSON, 140 Fifth avenue.

FOR RENT—4 NICE DWELLINGS—ON Hiland avenue, East End; large grounds, with fruit trees, etc. Rent very low. Inquire of LOCKHART & FREW, 174 Wood street.

FOR R

The Commercial.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1876.

THE Democratic press should oil itself a little. It would creak less dismally.

THE Grand Jury of Bucks county has found a "true bill" against the County Commissioners for malfeasance in office. Bucks is one of the unchanging and apparently unchangeable Democratic counties of this State.

THE Democrats of South Carolina have proved their friendship for the colored man by selecting, through their rump Legislature, Sitting Bull BUTLER, the leader in the Hamburg massacre, as their choice for Senator of the United States.

THE Democratic House is bent upon paying the claims of the disloyal ante-bellum mail contractors, a resolution to that effect having been passed by a large majority. These stale and tainted claims have been before every Congress since the war.

SENATOR GORDON, of Georgia, is likewise, as it seems, fearful of another conflict. He says:

In case of a conflict the South would take no part unless the integrity of their States should be threatened. There probably never was a people so sick of war as the people of the South, and it would take a great deal to get them to fight again.

THE United States and Mexican Claims Commission, organized under a treaty negotiated in 1868, has concluded its labors and dissolved. The sum of $80,411 was found due by the United States to citizens of Mexico, but the total amount of claims due by Mexico to citizens of the United States exceeds that amount by $3,975,123.

A NUMBER of reefs have lately been taken in the banking capital interest of New York; and now, following the lead of the Fourth National, which proposes to cut down its capital from $5,000,000 to $3,000,000, the Metropolitan is discussing a reduction of its capital from $1,000,000 to $3,000,000, and the National Exchange from $500,000 to $400,000.

A NATIVE of Georgia, and a life-long Southerner, writes to the Cincinnati *Gazette* that if HAYES is inaugurated the old Union element of the South will soon be reorganized on the basis of equal rights and national unity, and further, that it will include at least one-third of the white population. The spirit of HENRY CLAY still stirs, at intervals, among the dry bones of that section.

IT IS complained that foreign capitalists control to a very great extent the mining interests of the Western States, opportunities in new districts being instantly taken advantage of through the alertness and foresight of their agents. The investment of a few thousand dollars sometimes yields millions, and if American capitalists would keep reliable agents well to the front they, instead of their foreign competitors, might reap the benefit.

THE latest Hoosac tunnel scheme is to make a new and short cut to Schenectady from the New York State line, and then to Oswego by a new line on the opposite side of the Mohawk from that occupied by the New York Central, thence by way of the Lake Shore road reach the Great Western and Canada, and so have a shorter route to the West. From Schenectady, connection can also be had with Binghamton and the coal fields of this State. All this would require the building of but one hundred and twenty-five miles of new road.

THE Westchester *Village Record* is of opinion that as Philadelphia generally sends to the Legislature a delegation not up to the usual average, it would not improve either the Legislature or legislation to remove the seat of government to that city. It thinks the capital had better remain where it is. We notice also that the papers of the State, outside of Philadelphia, including those which are published in counties east of the Susquehanna, are generally outspoken against the removal. If Philadelphia *is wise she will not* press a question which is sure to be decided against her.

BRAWLEY, the Democratic candidate for Senator in Luzerne county, who has just been convicted of a penitentiary offense, was a loud declaimer, during the late political campaign, in favor of TILDEN, HENDRICKS and *reform*. He was always fearfully impressed with the terrible corruption in the Republican party, and urged that the salvation of the country depended entirely upon the election of such men as he to office. "We are the salt of the earth!" said another reformer, once, when urging *his* plea to office; whereupon some one in the audience exclaimed, "Then GOD save the bacon!"

IN A case involving the reversal of finding an infringement of the appellees' patent for an improvement in saws, the court holding that the invention lacked novelty, the United States Supreme Court holds in respect of inventions that an improvement claimed should involve invention to make it, as the patent act confers no right to obtain a patent except to a person who has invented or discovered some new and useful art, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or some new and useful improvement in one or the other of those described subject matters. This opinion is of interest to many persons hereabouts.

NORTHERN Democratic papers are bloviating hugely over the fact that of the sixty-two votes against the House resolution providing for a constitutional amendment forbidding the payment of war claims to disloyal persons, only four were from the North. The party is entitled to no credit whatever, on this score. The Northern Representatives dared not vote otherwise than they did, since they would have a mighty hard road to travel if they attempted to excuse themselves to their constituents for even seeming to indorse these claims for damages. It is a significant fact, however, that a number of the Northern Democrats dodged on the first roll-call, and only recorded their votes for the resolution after much reflection and when they saw how the popular tide in the House was running.

IT IS hardly probable that the joint resolution the other day introduced in Congress providing for a constitutional amendment prohibiting after 1890 the importation, manufacture or sale of alcoholic liquors, except for medicinal, mechanical and scientific purposes, will pass; but it is none the less unseemly that the capitol of the United States should be turned into a grog shop. Both the House and Senate restaurants are said to be nothing more than bar-rooms, where liquor is sold to any one who calls for it. Before the war it was the custom to sell liquor at the capitol, but in 1863 a very stringent law was passed prohibiting it, and the members who wanted their drinks were compelled to keep private supplies in the committee rooms. Now, however, all this is changed, all kinds of liquors being openly sold to order. It should be stopped at once. There is a law expressly forbidding it, and it ought to be stringently enforced.

IN yesterday's COMMERCIAL, referring to the new freight arrangement, it was asked why, if the mileage rule is the proper one, it was not extended to Pittsburgh. The question was based upon the fact that the published statement concerning the matter mentioned only the three Eastern cities of New York, Philadelphia and Baltimore. We have since learned from an official source that the rates from the West do now favor Pittsburgh on the mileage basis, as this city comes under the rule governing all local freights, which gives Philadelphia ten per cent. and Baltimore thirteen per cent. advantage over New York; and Pittsburgh, having the advantage over all three in mileage, will, under this arrangement, have that advantage on all local business pertaining to the Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and St. Louis, and the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railways. We are pleased to receive this assurance, and to publish the statement as it was made to us. The mileage rule is undoubtedly the correct one, and we trust it will be rigidly adhered to, at least so far as Pittsburgh is concerned.

CONCERNING A "MILITARY DESPOTISM."

The Democratic press of the country, our own unhappy "Only" among the number, are keeping up a most doleful cry about the "overthrow of republican institutions," the "establishment of a military dictatorship," the "subversion of the civil by the military power," etc. To read these appeals, and regard them as founded on reason, one would suppose that our boasted beacon light of civil liberty was about to flicker out with the close of the first century of national existence. But sensible people know very well that all this talk about the despotic tendencies and intentions of the President is the merest stuff—the utterances of partisans and demagogues, whose only purpose is to inflame the public mind, and help on their schemes to place in power a man who has been fairly defeated. The leaders of the Democratic party, finding that the great mass of their followers are very little concerned about TILDEN'S defeat, have determined upon a plan for "stirring them up." They must be "aroused from their apathy," and the TILDEN bureau is now busily engaged in putting into operation the arousing process. What took place at the secret interview between TILDEN and HENDRICKS, a few weeks ago, has not yet transpired; but recent events justify the conclusion that this very plan of appealing to the passions and prejudices of the illiterate and the degraded in their own ranks, was agreed upon. The Democratic press everywhere sounds the alarm that GRANT and his Cabinet are now massing troops in Washington for the sole purpose of "overawing and controlling the civil authority;" that the Constitution and the laws are to be trampled under foot, and that not a vestige of the fair temple of Liberty is to be left standing after the 4th of March next. "The shackles are even now being forged," say these Democratic editors, "and every man who values his freedom must strike before his wrist receives the galling chain." The Democratic leaders do not believe one word of this. The horrible picture has been drawn to order, for the purpose of firing the Democratic heart, and frightening the weak and timid. It also paves the way for those "indignation meetings" which Governor HENDRICKS, under the direction of Governor TILDEN, so recently inaugurated in Indiana. The "liberties of the people" are prized now, as they have never been prized before by the Democratic party, and they must be preserved at all hazards. If Democratic "indignation" will save civil liberty, as embodied in the person of SAMUEL J. TILDEN, it will be saved between this date and the 4th of January next. But the people must wake up. There must be no dozing—bulldozing always excepted. The climax will be reached on the 8th of January, the anniversary of "Old Hickory's" victory at New Orleans, by which time the TILDEN bureau will have the patriotic fire burning in every heart; suitable resolutions prepared for all the State conventions, and everything ready for the grand explosion. This will be no Centennial pyrotechnic display, but a regular Hell Gate affair, which will bury GRANT and his bayonets deeper than Hereulaneum, and cover Governor HAYES and his electors under a mountain of maledictions. After the smoke shall have cleared away, and the noise and confusion shall have ceased, TILDEN will be inaugurated, and the Goddess of Liberty will once more preside over the destinies of the nation.

This is the Democratic programme, but the farce does not seem to take very well. It is too transparent. The "people" are not afraid of losing their liberties, and will not permit a few blatant demagogues to use them at their pleasure. The response to the "call" for a Democratic meeting in the Eleventh ward of this city, is a case in point. Only thirty attended, and not one of these pretended that *he had any fears for the liberties of his country. There was no talk of war, or of any necessity for war. There was a pardonable desire* manifested to see TILDEN inaugurated, and a resolution was adopted requesting the County Committee to take steps toward obtaining a full expression of opinion upon the Presidential problem. Only this and nothing more.

By the way, why is it that the spirit of ANDREW JACKSON should be invoked in this connection? Is it to remind the country that the great champion of modern Democracy, when in the zenith of his power, was, like his less impetuous and less imperious, though equally firm and patriotic successor, General GRANT, charged with subverting the liberties of the people, and with aiming to erect a military despotism on the ruins of the Republic? The people should remember that this is an old cry, and has been raised, when party occasion prompted, against nearly every President, from WASHINGTON down; and Democrats should not forget that JACKSON'S acts called forth the strongest protests, and the most eloquent appeals in behalf of liberty and law, that have ever been made. They can find, in Mr. CLAY'S speech against the resolution to expunge the vote of censure passed by the Senate against JACKSON, much more powerful thunderbolts than those usually hurled against GRANT. Let us quote a few sentences:

> How is it with the President? Is he powerless? He is felt from one extremity to the other of this vast Republic. By means of principles which he has introduced, and innovations which he has made in our institutions, alas! but too much countenanced by Congress and a confiding people, he exercises uncontrolled the power of the State. In one hand he holds the purse, and in the other brandishes the sword of the country. He has swept over the country during the last eight years, like a tropical tornado. Every department exhibits traces of the ravages of the storm * * * What object of his ambition is unsatisfied? When disabled from wage any longer to hold the scepter of power, he designates his successor and transmits it to his favorite. What more does he want? Must we blot, deface and mutilate the records of the country, to punish the presumptuousness of expressing an opinion contrary to his own * * * Black lines! black lines! Sir, I hope the Secretary of the Senate will preserve the pen with which he may inscribe them, and present it to that Inquisitor of the majority, whom he may select, as a proud trophy to be transmitted to his descendants. And hereafter, when we shall lose the forms of our free institutions — all that now remain to us—some future American monarch, in gratitude to those by whose means he has been enabled, upon the ruins of civil liberty, to erect a throne, and to commemorate especially this expunging resolution, may institute a new order of knighthood, and confer on it the appropriate name of the "Knight of the Black Lines."

But why should I detain the Senate, or needlessly waste my breath in fruitless exertions? The decree has gone forth. Proceed, then, to the noble work which lies before you; and when you have perpetrated it, go home to the people and tell them what glorious honors you have achieved for our common country. * * * Tell them that henceforth, no matter what daring or outrageous act any President may perform, you have forever hermetically sealed the mouth of the Senate. Tell them he may fearlessly assume what power he pleases; snatch from its lawful custody the public purse, command a military detachment to enter the halls of the capitol, overawe Congress, trample down the Constitution, and raze every bulwark of freedom; * * * and if the people do not pour out their indignation and imprecations, I have yet to learn the character of American freemen.

Yet the Republic survived. The patriotic "Old Hickory" had no more notion of erecting a military despotism than General GRANT has to-day. He hated traitors and nullifiers, as GRANT hates them; and if the shades of the hero of New Orleans are to be invoked, let his successor in the White House call upon him to bear witness that, "by the Eternal," the laws shall be enforced and treason and rebellion punished.

AN INTERESTING question as to how long a telegraphic offer to sell remains open, and when the bargain is closed by acceptance, has just been decided in the United States Circuit Court of Minnesota. A certain oil company in that State telegraphed to a white lead company, July 31, which fell upon a Saturday, that they would sell 300 barrels of oil at a certain rate. The telegram was not delivered until Monday, August 2. The next day the lead company telegraphed acceptance, and the same day the oil company telegraphed a withdrawal of the offer. Under these circumstances the court held that if the offer was open when the acceptance was filed in the telegraph office, that closed the bargain and a withdrawal deposited the same day would come too late; but it was also held that in a case where prices were fluctuating rapidly, as in this case, a telegraphic offer could not be considered open so long as from Saturday to Tuesday, and therefore gave judgment accordingly.

THE SILVER DOLLAR.

The New York papers nearly all disapprove of the bill which has passed the House and is now before the Senate, for resuming the issue of the old silver dollar of 412½ grains, and making it a legal tender in payment of debts; while such papers as the Philadelphia *Press*, Philadelphia *North American*, Cincinnati *Commercial* and Chicago *Tribune*, favor the passage of the bill. The Cincinnati *Commercial* and Chicago *Tribune* were and are in favor of the early resumption of specie payments; so that their present position on the silver question does not grow out of any devotion to the doctrine of inflation or hostility to a return to coin payments as the basis of all business transactions. They both regard the Silver bill as likely to hasten, rather than retard, the resumption of specie payments.

It is urged against this bill that the present commercial value of silver is a fluctuating quantity, and has ranged, within the past year, from forty-seven pence per ounce to fifty-eight, in the London market; and that it is impossible to make a legal tender, of unvarying value, of a species of coin that has no certain or determinate value. On the other hand, the friends of the Silver bill urge that the fluctuation referred to grows out of the demonetization of silver by the German Government, and the consequent overflow of the silver market through the offerings of the rejected German coin. It is also urged that the remonetization of silver by the United States Government would counterpoise the action of the German Government, and result in giving a more permanent and steady value to silver in the markets of the world.

That such would be the effect of the passage of the bill now before the Senate we firmly believe. The Constitution recognizes and names gold and silver coin as the only legal tender in payment of debts, and being so recognized, there seems to be an eminent propriety in keeping up the recognition. Silver coin has been a part of the money of the country from the foundation of the Government until it was demonetized a few years since; and there is no good reason, so far as we have seen, for abandoning its use after so long an adhesion to it. The most of the Governments of the world still adhere to silver as a basis of commercial exchange. Austria, France, Russia, Canada, the Central and South American Republics, Japan and China all adhere to it; and Germany stands nearly alone in rejecting it. If the United States Government returns to it, as we think it should, the demand for coinage would undoubtedly contribute materially to settle the value of silver upon a certain and determinate ratio to gold.

The Bland bill, now before the Senate, may need amendment and change. We say nothing, here, as to its specific provisions, but on the general principle of the wisdom of a return to the legal use of silver coin we feel that it, or something like it, should become a law. The President is said to be against it; but we do not think he would veto any financial measure that could receive, under present circumstances, the approval of both branches of Congress.

THE following we find as a special dispatch, in the Chicago *Tribune*, from St. Louis:

> The famous ex-Confederate cavalry leader, General Jo. Shelby, who has been a prominent supporter of TILDEN in this State, stated to-night, in an interview, that as the event of any trouble between the two political parties, he would support that party which received the support of President Grant; that if Mr. Ferry declared that Hayes had a majority of the electoral votes, and Grant inducted him into office, if the supporters of TILDEN undertook to inaugurate their choice by force in opposition to Hayes, he (Shelby) would head an armed organization from this section to sustain Hayes. General Shelby further declared that the ex-Confederate soldiers, as a general thing, could not be dragged into armed opposition to the inauguration of Hayes, and that their faith in the Northern Democracy was not of such a nature as to induce them to take up arms under any circumstances. General Shelby is convinced that there is in process of organization in this city a movement, in conjunction with similar plans in Illinois, Indiana, Ohio and elsewhere, to accomplish the inauguration of TILDEN by force. He denounces such a movement as rebellious, and is ready at any time to sustain Grant in whatever declaration he may make.

Farming in New England.

The Commissioner of Agriculture says that the business of farming in the New England States is reasonably profitable. Although a great deal has been written to the contrary, the New England newspapers accept this opinion as substantially correct. As in every other section of the Union there are some farmers in the New England States who get poorer every year, but there are others who make money. For instance, an energetic agriculturist in Maine, who owns six farms, gets an annual profit of ten per cent. on the original cost of one of them, and from three to five per cent. on the cost of the others. We presume that there is no man in Maryland, the owner of six farms, who could make any better showing of profits from his land.

We notice that the farming population of the New England States is divided into precisely the same classes that obtain south of Mason and Dixon's line. The Boston *Journal* mentions the "grocer farmer," who spends his time discussing better methods; road farmers, who sow their seed by the wayside and the fowls devour it; mixed farmers, who do a little skimming and much bragging in addition to their regular business; fast-horse farmers, who run the agricultural societies, now late and raise meager crops for the benefit of their creditors, and carpet-bagging farmers, who cultivate the benches of the country stores much more diligently than they work their fields. None of these classes make any money in New England or elsewhere. Nor would the same men succeed in any other business that requires energy, industry and constant vigilance. We are somewhat surprised to learn that thirty-one per cent. of the farming area of the New England States is wood land. Maine has nearly half as much forest as cleared land, and the wood land and waste land of Massachusetts one-third of the whole. Even little Rhode Island, with its 492,308 acres, has 169,399 acres of wood land. No doubt a great deal of the timber land in the territory designated as "wood land" is of little value, and a good deal of the ground is allowed to remain uncleared because it is either too sterile or too rough for farming purposes; nevertheless, the fact remains that more than one-third of the land in the most populous States in the Union is covered with trees and bushes. We believe that the wood used in the manufacture of light carriage wheels in all the large manufactories in this part of the country is cut from the New England forests.

The census reports put down the average value of the products of agriculture in 1870 at $413 for every man engaged therein. The value of the agricultural products of the New England States for that year was $490 to each man; so that profits of farming in that region ranked above, rather than below, the average. It must not be inferred from this that the soil is fertile and the crops luxurious. On the contrary, a great deal of land is both rough and sterile, and it is only by careful cultivation that a fair crop can be raised. But the prices obtained for farm products are far higher than in any other part of the Union; there is a good local market everywhere, and nearly everything is consumed near to the place at which it is raised. This reduces the cost of transportation to a minimum, and greatly enhances the farmers' profits. There has been a good deal said about the migration and deterioration of the farming population of New England, but with these facts before us we think it highly probable that it is more likely that the waste lands will all be reclaimed than that the present tillable area will be lessened.—*Baltimore American.*

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

"Mercy but murders pardoning those who kill."

The true name of the Southern Democracy is, "The party of murder and perjury."

If our rivers don't quit gorging themselves with ice they will get a sad case of cold dyspepsia.

The relation of South Carolina to the Union is now and has always been what a chestnut burr is under a horse's tail.

Lumbermen are making preparations for a grand onslaught upon the forests of the Adirondack region in New York, this winter.

Lumber cutting has been begun in the immense forests of California, and a large increase of wealth in that State from this source is expected.

The hog cholera is raging terrifically in portions of Illinois. In some counties of that State many farmers have lost ninety per cent. of their droves.

Country people are complaining that the chicken market is dull. No wonder. There are very few Democrats who dare look a rooster squarely in the face.

The Supreme Court of Ohio has decided that railroad conductors have no right to eject passengers from trains for non-payment of fare except at a regular station of the road.

A glimmer of civilization. A candle box placed on a pole set where two roads cross, and two miles from human habitation, constitutes the postoffice at West Belknap, Clay county, Texas.

The United States Treasury is paying the first instalment of called bonds, 1865, May and November, and also the quarterly interest on the new four and a half per cents issued as from September 1.

The oyster business is rising into considerable importance on the Gulf coast of Alabama, and promises in a few years to afford employment for thousands of people, as well as a profit to shippers.

A very dangerous counterfeit silver half dollar has been detected in Chicago. It is composed of block tin and other ingredients, has the ring of the genuine metal, and decisive acids will not affect it.

Large numbers of frozen fish are being picked up on the beach at Long Branch. In the day time they keep out in deep water, but after dark they come in near shore to feed and are washed up by the surf.

What's in the wind? Commodore Garrison, the New York steamship man, has accepted a commission from the Russian Government for the purchase of war vessels and naval material on this side of the Atlantic.

Spain has been threatened, if not by this time made the theater of another African invasion, a flight of locusts from Africa passing that way over Gibralter on the 19th ult. so numerous as to be two hours passing over.

Japan still persists in her progressive policy. Kindergartens have been introduced in the Government schools for girls, and the Corean authorities have applied for Japanese surgeons trained in foreign methods of practice.

So many "security" and "safety" insurance companies have failed recently, that if some shrewd financier were to start a risky insurance company or an insecurity savings bank it is possible it might be abundantly patronized.

The watchman employed by the First National Bank of Dallas, Texas, lately "set up a job" to rob the bank, the policeman on the beat being also privy to the plot. They were caught by Chicago detectives in the guise of fellow conspirators.

Arizonia is looming up. The pacification of the hostile Indians has caused a steady stream of emigration to set in that direction. The San Diego *Union* says that the coaches take their departure from that city loaded down with passengers for the Territory.

The Georgia State Board of Health proposes to get at the bottom facts in relation to the cause of yellow fever in Savannah. They have summoned various prominent citizens before them, and have made a minute inspection of the sewerage facilities of the city.

The newly discovered guano deposits in Peru extend along the coast for about eighteen leagues, with an average width of twelve leagues. There will be guano enough to pay the total indebtedness of that country, even if it be sold at one-half the price it now brings.

The reports of receivers of life insurance companies and of receivers of savings banks fill a large place in the newspaper literature of the day, especially in New York. The papers of that city are printing many columns a day about companies defunct or about to be defunct.

The number of "paying" granges, "Patrons of Industry," in the United States is placed at 13,693, with a membership of 532,460. The late session of the national body at Chicago was largely preoccupied with arrangements for buying and selling so as to dispense with middlemen.

A meeting of shareholders of the New York *Graphic* Company is to be held soon to discuss the revelations made by Sir Francis Hinks before the local Legislature of Quebec, in regard to the loss of $540,000 of the capital, and the large amounts allotted to the brokers who placed the stock on the market, and received among them over $30,000 for so doing. This was about twelve per cent. commission, when the usual commission is one per cent. The loss to Canadian investors has brought down general censure on the promoters of the enterprise.

PERSONAL.

The present United States Court Crier at Cincinnati has occupied his present position during the last fifty years. In this time he has cried more than he did when he was a baby.

Herbert Spencer is in a quite discouraging state of health, and incapable of literary labor. It is feared that he will never complete his great thought-system. The first volume of his "Principles of Sociology" is out in England; it is the sixth of the "Synthetic Philosophy."

Miss Grattan, the adventurous Englishwoman who ascended Mont Blanc on the 31st of last January, has married the Swiss guide who accompanied her. She made the acquaintance of the hardy mountaineer when, only fifteen years old, she first clambered up the Alps. She is now about thirty.

Miss Maria Francesca Rossetti died in London, a few weeks ago, in her fiftieth year. She was the eldest of the Rossetti family, and had the hereditary *penchant* for Dante. She was the author of "The Shadow of Dante," and in the specialty of Dante literature was unrivaled in Great Britain.

Cujus Cronin, of Oregon, who is on his way to Washington, is described by a newspaper correspondent as a hard lot. He drank twelve bottles of brandy between San Francisco and Ogden. At Elko, Nevada, he was serenaded. Cronin could not make a speech, but invited the crowd to a saloon near the depot, where all filled up. A leading Pacific coast Democrat on the train said he wanted Tilden elected, but not by the action of such men as Cronin, who, in appearance, at least, is a specimen of the New York ward bummer.

There are some curious specimens of nomenclature in the list of members-elect to the Forty-fifth Congress. *Hiary* A. Herbert is the name of a member from Alabama; Romualdo Pacheco comes from the Fourth California district by one vote; Dabney is the surname of one of the Georgia delegation; Ashcraft is from Illinois; *Benoni* Fuller will come from Indiana, and *Sobieski* Ross from Pennsylvania. There will be two Willises, one from New York and one from Kentucky. *Elam* is the name of a Lonisiana member; Muleiron that of a Mississippi member; Bland was re-elected from Missouri, and the Nevada member's name is Wren. From New York we have Solomon Bundy, who is a hero in nursery rhymes, and a man named Tramper. From Virginia will come a man named Pridemore. From Iowa Mr. Sapp, and from Wisconsin Mr. Bragg and Mr. Pound. In the present Congress there are three Harrises, and two each of Baker, Bagley, Brown, Burchard, Caldwell, Clarkes, Clarks, Hamilton, Hewitt, Jones, Landers, Mackey, Phillips, Ridley, Robbins, Ross, Smith, Townsend, Vance, Walker, Wallace, Wills, Wilson and Wood. In the next Congress there will be four Clarkes, three Evans, three Harrises and three Townsends. The list of doubles is as follows: Baker, Coe, Caldwell, Davis, Furley, Hewitt, Jones, Patterson, Rice, Smith, Stone, White and Willis. Scott Wike is the most peculiar name on the rolls of the present House. Gabe Bouck, of Wisconsin, will probably be so noticed in the next Congress. Milton will be the most common Christian name—there will be five Miltons.

THE following table gives nearly complete returns of the popular vote for President in all of the States of the Union:

STATES.	REP. Hayes.	DEM. Tilden.	$	TEMPERANCE Cooper.	Smith.	Hayes' plurality.	Tilden's plurality.
Alabama	68,230	102,613					34,383
Arkansas	38,669	58,082	211				19,414
California	78,668	79,841				2,757	
Colorado	14,193	10,316				535	
Connecticut	56,094	61,934	744				2,840
Delaware	10,691	13,379					2,688
Florida	23,849	22,923				926	
Georgia	49,254	129,758					80,451
Illinois	278,232	258,607	17,109	378	19,625		
Indiana	207,928	213,541	9,521				5,871
Iowa	171,327	112,466	9,031		59,228		
Kansas	78,233	37,902	7,776	110	40,430		
Kentucky	88,415	160,445	2,003				69,030
Louisiana	75,135	70,508				4,627	
Maine	66,300	39,241	663			26,386	
Maryland	71,961	91,780					19,779
Mass	150,064	106,791	3,662	779	41,267		
Michigan	166,534	141,065	9,060	767	25,439		
Minnesota	72,962	48,799	2,309			24,163	
Mississippi	51,788	108,641				56,853	
Missouri	144,388	202,997	3,498			58,285	
Nebraska	31,962	17,552	2,800		14,399		
Nevada	10,383	9,150			1,086		
N. Hampshire	41,522	38,389	34		3,073		
N. Jersey	105,515	115,979	713	43		12,445	
N. York	489,329	521,518	2,054	2,359			32,189
N. Car.	106,802	125,060			1,086		18,078
Ohio	330,698	323,182	3,057	1,636	7,516		
Oregon	14,762	13,088	369		1,174		
Pennsylv	384,148	366,204	7,264	1,318	17,401		
R. Island	15,787	10,712	60	68	5,075		
S. Car'na	91,845	90,881			964		
Tenn'ssee	89,566	133,166				43,600	
Texas	44,466	104,756				60,290	
Vermont	44,228	20,350			24,078		
Virginia	95,286	139,412				44,126	
W. Virg'a	41,098	56,995	1,397			77,561	
Wiscon.	130,467	122,820	2,645		6,141		
Total	4,062,079	4,341,930	78,309		272,097	292,954	

Atlanta, Ga., congratulates herself on the enjoyment of unexampled prosperity in commerce and agriculture.

S. M. Pettengill & Co.,

Advertising Agents,

37 Park Row, New York,

Desire to Call the Attention of Business Men, who wish to reach the Reading Public, to the following

FACTS:

1. They have been in the Advertising business for nearly thirty years, and given it constant attention and study during that time.
2. They have had, and continue to have, cordial business relations with all the newspapers and other periodicals in the United States and Canada.
3. Their record with all these publications is one of fair treatment, honorable dealing and prompt settlements.
4. In consequence of this, they can always have advertisements inserted at the publisher's *lowest rates*.
5. They are so acquainted with the entire business of the country that they can select the *best mediums* or any given purpose.
6. Having done advertising for all kinds of business, and noted the results to their customers, they can give valuable suggestions as to the *size, style and position* which will make the most effective advertisement for the object to be attained.
7. Having frequent orders for a large number of papers, they can, in most cases, get the work done for less cost than the advertiser would have to pay if he sent the order direct.
8. They examine all papers, note all omissions or irregularities, secure the strict fulfillment of every stipulation of the order, and submit fair files for the inspection of the advertiser.
9. They give the advertiser the full benefit of the facilities and of their supervision *without charge*, a commission being paid by the publishers.
10. They submit estimates for any given list of papers, or for properly covering any given district.
11. For a systematic working up of any large enterprise, they assist in the preparation of circulars, pamphlets and general reading matter, in addition to newspaper advertising.
12. They invite a call from any parties who contemplate advertising in any way or for any amount.

S. M. PETTENGILL & CO.,

37 Park Row, New York.
701 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.
Centennial Grounds, Philadelphia.
10 State Street, Boston.

NATIONAL INSURANCE CO.,

48 South Diamond St., Allegheny City.

W. W. MARTIN.....President.
JAM TEVENSON.....Secreta y

Pittsburgh Bank for Savings,

No. 61 Fourth Ave., Pittsburgh.

CHARTERED IN 1868.

BOARD OF MANAGERS.—George A. Berry, President; John Scott, Jas. Park, Jr., Vice Presidents. A. Bradley, J. L. Graham, A. S. Bell, Wm. K. Minick, John S. Dilworth, F. Hahn, G. Follansbee, Secretary.
Chas. G. Milnor, Secretary and Treasurer.
SOLICITOR—John H. Bailey.

DRY GOODS

1876. 1877.

Holiday Goods!

AT

James Caldwell & Co.'s,

No. 115 and 117

FEDERAL ST.,

ALLEGHENY.

Attractive Display

AND

Lowest Prices!

NEW

Dress Goods,
Dress Silks,
Muffs and Boas,
Seal Sacques,
Cloth Sacques,
Cloaking Cloths,
Shawls, Skirts, &c,
Housekeeping Goods.

Will Open on Monday, Dec. 18th,

NEW SELECTIONS OF

Handkerchiefs,
Ladies' Neck Wear,
Gloves, &c, &c.

And Many Other Articles Suitable FOR

CHRISTMAS and NEW YEAR'S

Presents!

DISSOLUTION.

DISSOLUTION.

The partnership heretofore existing between JOHN G. LOWRY and R. E. McCOY is this day dissolved by mutual consent.

JOHN G. LOWRY.

Wilkinsburg, Pa., November 30, 1876.

THE PARTNERSHIP HERETOFORE EXisting under the firm name of BECKERT & GERWIG is this day dissolved by limitation. C. W. GERWIG retiring. The business will be continued by C. BECKERT, who will pay all debts and collect all accounts.

November 25, 1876.

Insure with the

Ætna of Hartford

59 FOURTH AVENUE.

ASSETS JAN. 1876 } **$6,497,275.94.**

S.S. CARRIER, Agent.

PATENTS.

Persons desiring to procure Patents, or wishing to obtain information from the U. S. Patent Office, are advised to consult F. A. LEHMANN, of Washington, D. C., corner of Seventh and E streets, or 88 Fifth avenue, Pittsburgh.
Send for circular.

DRY GOODS

TUESDAY, DECEMBER

NEW CHRISTMAS GOODS!

AT WILLIAM SEMPLE'S,

Nos. 165, 167 and 169 Federal Street, Allegheny,

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT!

From present indications it will be an utter impossibility, even with our increased facilities, to serve our patrons on Saturday of this week, and that over-crowding may in a manner be lessened Thursday and Friday evening, additional to our regular Saturday evening, until nine o'clock, we will be open to meet the demand of the season.

Goods for the Holidays.

A most suitable gift for a Christmas present, and which our stock offers unsurpassed attractions, would be Dress Pattern of any material.

DRESS SILKS.

Our Silk Department is as it has been during the season, full, fresh and complete, and at prices lower nowhere in the United States.

At $5, $6 and $8, extra heavy Gros-grain Black Silks.

At $1 and $1 25, extra heavy Gros-grain Black Silks.

At $1 37½, very superior Gros-grain Black Silks.

At $1 50 to $4 50, special good value in Gros-grain and "Hand spun" Black Dress Silks.

At $1, Seal and assorted Brown Dress Silks.

At $1 25 to $2 50, extra value in choicest shades Colored Silks, much under value.

While our lines of Mourning and Fancy Dress Silks, including Brocade Silks, is specially attractive in variety and prices.

At 25 to 50c, extra good Black and Colored Cashmeres.

At 60 and 62½c, extra bargain in Colored Merino.

At 65c to $1, superior value in Black and Colored Cashmeres.

Having made large and most advantageous purchase of these goods, the value offered cannot be excelled.

At 10 and 12½c, choice seasonable Dress Goods.

At 12½c, Knickerbocker Suitings worth 25c.

At 18¾c, all Wool Striped Oversuitings.

At 18¾, to 25c, Fine Colored Cashmeres.

At 20c, newest shades in Basket Cloth Goods.

At 25c to $1 50, beautiful line of latest effects in Dress Goods of all textures and in all shades, suitable for promenade and interior wear, at the lowest prices.

At 12½c, all the latest shades and styles Tycoon Repps.

Full line and very complete stock of Medium and Deep Mourning Goods.

AT LOWEST PRICES.

FURNISHING GOODS, &C.

Holiday Goods

AT

JOSEPH HORNE & CO.

Invite special attention to the following lines of goods, all of which are being offered at

Bargain Prices!!

LADIES' CLOTH CLOAKS, all the newest materials.
SEAL SKIN SACQUES.
MUFFS, BOAS and HATS
SILK FUR LINED CIRCULARS.
BLACK DRESS SILKS.
Dark Colored Dress Silks.
Light Party Silks.
Ladies' Silk Ties and Bows
Lace Scarfs, Barbes, Collars and Handkerchiefs.
Linen Handkerchiefs, Plain White, Colored and Mourning Borders in great variety.
Silk Handkerchiefs from 25c up.
Fancy Handkerchief and Glove Boxes, Fine Hair Brushes and Combs, Russia Leather Portmonais, Cigar Cases, Companions, &c.
Ladies' Kid Gloves, 1 to 10 Buttons.
Misses' Kid Gloves.
Ladies and Misses' Gloves and Mittens.
Men's Cloth and Leather Gloves.
Fur Gauntlets.
Men's Furnishing Goods.
Dressing Gowns and Smoking Jackets.
Linen Handkerchiefs, Silk Handkerchiefs, Silk Mufflers, Cashmere Mufflers, from 25c up.
Neck Dressing, latest novelties.
Linen Collars and Cuffs.
Underwear in all grades.

Open every evening during the week previous to Christmas until 8:30 o'clock.

Retail Store,

197 & 199 Penn Avenue.

BANK STATEMENTS.

Forty-Third Semi-Annual Report

OF THE

Dollar Savings Bank,

124 Fourth Ave., Pittsburgh, Pa.

LIABILITIES.

Amount Due Depositors December 1, 1876.....$5,093,201 87
Amount Dividends unpaid.....156,304 58
Amount Contingent Fund.....154,204 00
Total Liabilities.....$5,393,709 45

ASSETS.

Loans on Bond and Mortgage.....$3,300,417 33
Mortgage Interest Due.....80,336 44
Stock in Pittsburgh Banks.....15,000 00
U. S. Government Bonds.....1,100,000 00
Real Estate.....80,000 00
Bank Furniture, Safe, &c.....12,071 93
Cash in Banks and on Hand.....356,943 66
Total Assets.....$5,393,709 45

Present Number of Depositors 10,633, averaging $490 each.
December 1, 1876.

The undersigned Auditing Committee respectfully report that they have examined the Treasurer's Report for the last six months, ending November 25, 1876, and have examined the Assets of the Bank, including all Bonds and Mortgages, Deeds of Real Estate, Certificates of Bank Stock, U. S. Government Bonds and the Cash in Banks (as per Bank Books) and on hand, and find the same to correspond with the above report.

HENRY W. OLIVER, Jr.,
C. FLEMING,
WILLIAM McMANUS,
MALCOLM HAY,
Auditing Committee.

Pittsburgh, December 12, 1876.

The Trustees have this day declared a Dividend of THREE (3) PER CENT. for the last six months, ending November 30, 1876, free of Government tax, and payable on and after the 5th prox. If not drawn will bear interest from 1st inst.

CHAS. A. COLTON, Treasurer.

Pittsburgh, December 13, 1876.

HOTELS.

IMPERIAL HOTEL,

The Only First-class Three-Dollar-per-Day Hotel in Washington.

In order to meet the wants of the Traveling

FINANCE AND TRADE.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, December 20, 1876.

Financial affairs retain their accustomed position of ease and quiet with a little tendency to improvement as the close of the year draws near. This is hardly decided enough to base any progrostications on, however, nor is it likely to develop into much importance as to produce any effect on the present plethoric condition of the banks. All the first class applications for banking accommodations are met without any difficulty, though bank officers and discount boards are as much disposed as ever to scrutinize all doubtful or unknown paper with extreme severity. Rates rule easy at 7@9 per cent. on prime commercial paper at the banks, and 6@7 per cent. on prime collaterals. The entire condition of monetary affairs is unchanged and is likely to remain so until after the first of the year, when the new trade opens up.

—The New York *Herald* says of the market for Government bonds: These, while depressed in the early part of the week, subsequently advanced in sympathy with the rise in gold and obedient to a strong home demand by private and public investors, who generally avail themselves of low prices to make their investments. The half yearly gold interest to be paid out on Government stocks January 1, is as follows:

	Principal.	Interest.
On sixes, 1881	$202,687,250	$8,510,448
On sixes, 1867	50,622,700	3,316,362
On sixes, 1865	202,663,100	6,993,000
On sixes, 1868	37,473,900	1,224,124
Total January interest		$19,943,935

—The Philadelphia bank statement of averages for the past week, as compared with that of the previous week, shows an increase in loans of $16,988, in specie of $651 6, and in due from banks of $264,772. The reserve showed the very heavy loss of $1,980,318, national bank notes $23,159, due to banks $308 340, deposits $4,455,702, and circulation $3,272. The most significant features in this return are the items of reserve and deposits. The business at bank was done on moderate extent, the clearings showing an increase of $115,666 and the balances a decrease of $1,036,662. The financial situation continues the same as for a month past. The supply of money at Philadelphia is light and the rates realized for its use low.

—The New York *Journal of Commerce* says: There has been a change of officers of the Gold Exchange Bank, and a reduction of capital to $250,000 is proposed. Some dissatisfaction is expressed in the Gold Room at the change, and the Executive Committee have under consideration the propositions of several of the banks to clear the transactions of the room on terms which will doubtless be entirely satisfactory to members of the exchange. The subject will be fully considered at a meeting to be held on Thursday afternoon.

—The Purchasing Committee of the Toledo, Wabash and Western Railway Company give notice that time for taking the new stock will expire on the 23d (Saturday). The stock is coming in at the rate of 7,000 or 8,000 shares daily, and the time is short and the committee wish to give ample notice to the shareholders, that they may not lose the privilege secured to them. Subscribers must surrender the old stock on subscription.

—The Comptroller of the Currency holds that the national banking system in this country is superior to any system ever established before in the United States, and that it equals in efficiency and strength the principal systems of banking established in Europe, the same opinion he has been again and again uttered in these columns.

—The Solicitor of the Treasury has rendered a opinion that investments in District of Columbia 5-65 bonds are exempt from the semi-annual taxation of bank capital.

—The following table shows the prices of gold, Government bonds, railway stocks, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day. Furnished by the Fifth National Bank, No. 16 Sixth street:

December 20, 1876.	10:00 A. M.	11:30 A. M.	1:30 P. M.	2:30 P. M.	3:00 P. M.
Gold	107⅜	107¼	107⅜	107⅜	107⅜
U. S. 6's, 1881, coup	117	....	....	....	117½
5-20's, 1865	109¼	109¼	....	....	109¼
5-20's, 1865, new	109¼	109¼	....	....	109¼
5-20's, 1867, registered	112½	112½	....	....	112½
5-20's, 1867	112½	112½	....	....	112½
5-20's, 1868, registered	112¾	....	....	....	112¾
5-20's, 1868	112¾	....	....	....	112¾
10-40's, registered	112¾	112¾	....	....	112¾
10-40's, coupons	112¾	112¾	....	....	112¾
Currency 6's	121¾	121¾	....	....	121¾
New 5's per cents	112¾	112¾	....	....	112¾
Western Union Tel	73¾	73¾	73¾	73¾	73¾
Quicksilver	....	....	....	19¼	....
Pacific Mail	25¾	....	....	....	25¾
Panama	136	....	136	....	....
Atlantic Express	....	....	101	....	....
Wells-Fargo Express	98¾	....	....	97¾	....
American Express	49¼	....	....	49¼	....
United States Ex	53½	....	....	53½	....
New York Central	96¾	96¾	96¾	96¾	96¾
Erie	9¾	9¾	9¾	9¾	9¾
Erie, preferred	27¾	27¾	27¾	27¾	27¾
Michigan Central	89¾	89¾	89¾	89¾	89¾
Illinois Central	95¾	....	....	95¾	95¾
Cleveland & Pitts	89¾	....	....	89¾	89¾
Chicago & Northwest	32¾	....	....	32¾	32¾
Do. preferred	64¾	....	....	64¾	64¾
Rock Island	....	101¼	....	....	101¼
St. Paul common	31¾	....	....	31¾	31¾
Do. preferred	53¾	53¾	53¾	53¾	53¾
Wabash common	12¾	....	....	12¾	12¾
Fort Wayne	100	....	100	....	....
Ohio and Mississippi	6¾	6¾	6¾	6¾	6¾
Union Pacific	....	....	....	....	....
Harlem	136½	....	....	....	136½
New Jersey Central	34	34¼	....	34	34
Hannibal & St. Jo	13¾	13¾	13¾	13¾	13¾
Do. preferred	....	....	....	....	....
Iron Mountain	....	....	....	....	....
C. C. & I. C	25	....	....	25	....
Del., Lack. & West	....	93¾	....	93¾	93¾
North Car. 6's, ass. A	32	32¾	....	32¾	32¾
South Carolina, 6's	30	30¼	....	30¼	30¼
Missouri 6's	....	....	....	....	....

—The following is the report of the prices of leading stocks on the Philadelphia Stock Board, as received by wire at noon to-day:

Stocks.	Bid.	Asked.	Sales.
Pennsylvania Central	97¾	99¼	48
Reading	20¾	20¾	....
United Cos. of N. J.	128½	....	....
Phila, Wilm & Baltimore	89¾	89¾	....
Lehigh Valley	....	....	....
Allegheny Valley 7-30's	104½	....	....
Central Transportation	....	....	40
Keystone Transportation	50	....	....
P., C. & St. L. in. b	84	84½	....

(By Associated Press.)
Gold Closed at 107¾.

MONEY.

NEW YORK, December 20.—Money active at 5@7 per cent. until near the close, when 2½ per cent. was the rate. Prime mercantile paper 6@7 per cent. Customs receipts $156,000. The Assistant Treasurer disbursed $82,000. Clearings $22,000,000. Sterling firm at 482½@484¼.

GOLD.

Gold opened at 107¾, declined to 107¼ and closed 107¾. Carrying rates 4@5 per cent. Silver 121@121¼ per ounce in gold.

STOCKS AND BONDS.

Government bonds strong. Railroad bonds still but generally firm. State securities quiet. The stock market was strong early in the day and prices advanced from ¼ to 1¼ per cent., but in the afternoon a portion of the improvement was lost. Lake Shore, Michigan Central and Pacific Mail were the most active stocks. Pacific Mail advanced to 25¾ and reacted ¼@⅜ per cent. in final sales; Ohio and Mississippi rose from 6¾ to 6¾, closing at 6¾; Wabash old at 12¾, Lake Shore at 73¾@72, ex-dividend of 1¾ per cent.; Illinois Central fell off to 95¾ and Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati and Indianapolis to 89; Erie declined from 9¾ to 9¾ and recovered to 9¾; Northwestern and St. Paul shares declined from ¾ to ¾ per cent.; New York Central and Rock Island were firm. Final stocks were among the sales 110,000 shares, of which 1,700 were Pacific Mail, 9,000 Western Union, 6,000 St. Paul, 3,000 Erie, 29,900 Lake Shore, 5,000 Ohio and Mississippi, 25,000 Wabash, 25,000 Michigan Central and 4 400 Delaware, Lackawanna and Western. The following were the closing quotations:

Stocks.		Stocks.	
West. Union Tel	72	Rock Island	101¼
Quicksilver	19	St. Paul	32¾
Do. preferred	53	Do. preferred	53
Pacific Mail	25¾	Toledo & Wabash	12¾
Mariposa	7¾	Do. preferred	15
Do. preferred	17½	Ft. Wayne	100¾
Adams Express	101	Terre Haute	3
Wells-Fargo Ex	98	Do. preferred	15
American Ex	48	Chicago & Alton	99
United States Ex	53½	Do. preferred	108
New York Central	96¾	Ohio & Mississippi	6¾
Erie	9¾	Del. & Lack	93¾
Do. preferred	27¾	Atlantic & P. Tel	14¾
Harlem	136	Atlantic & P. pref.	27¾
Do. preferred	133	Missouri Pacific	3
Michigan Central	89¾	Indiana Central	8¾
Panama	136	Bur. & Quincy	114¾
Lake Shore	73¾	Hannibal & St. Joe.	13¾
Illinois Central	95¾	Hannibal & St. Joe. pfd	30¾
Cleve. and Pitts	89¾	Central Pac. bonds	106
Northwestern	36¾	Union Pac. bonds	105¾
Do. preferred	66¾	Land grants	93¾
C., C. & I	25½	Do. S. F. bonds	91¾
N. J. Central	34		

*Ex-dividend.

GOVERNMENTS.			
U. S. coupons, 1881	117¾	New 5's	111¾
5-20's, 1865	109¼	New 4½'s	108¾
5-20's, 1865, new	109¼	10-40's, registered	112¾
5-20's, 1867	112½	10-40's, coupons	112¾
5-20's, 1868	112¾	Currency 6's	121

STATE BONDS.			
Tennessee, old	31	Virginia, old	31
Tennessee, new	40¼	Missouri 6's	107¾
Virginia, new	29		

LONDON, December 20, 5 P. M.—The steamer Adriatic, which sails for New York to-morrow, takes out $250,000 in specie. Silver 59⅛ per ounce. Consols 94 1-16. United States bonds—new 5's 104¾; 6-20's, 1865, 107¼; do. 1867, 107¾; 10-40's 106¼. Railroad securities—New York Central 102; Erie 9¾; preferred 27¾.

PARIS, December 20.—Rentes 104 francs 95 centimes.

FRANKFORT, December 20.—United States bonds—New 5's 101¾.

NEW ORLEANS, December 20.—Gold 108@108¾. Sight exchange on New York ¼ per cent. discount. Sterling exchange 487½.

GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, WEDNESDAY, December 20, 1876.

An upward tendency is noticeable in some departments of general trade, but on the whole there is little reason to deviate from the statements of trade heretofore and recently made. The markets are quiet, and demands and prices about the same as those last reported. The stir, such as it is, in the flour market, sometimes, but does not create any remarkable activity. The different kinds of flour and grain we still quote as below.

The receipts of the leading articles of produce since those named yesterday are the following:

Flour, bbls	993	Wheat, bus	7,410
Corn, bus	400	Butter, pkgs	61
Barley, bus	480	Bacon, lbs	3,756
Rye, bus	400	Bacon, tcs	28
Oats, bus	2,920		

The following are the receipts of the leading articles of produce during the past two weeks:

	Last week.	Two week.	Total.
Flour, bbls	7,287	8,798	16,085
Apples, bbls	616	76	692
Cheese, lbs	1,311	474	1,785
Corn, bus	8,750	4,486	13,186
Wheat, bus	2,160	8,540	10,700
Barley, bus	5,076	12,453	17,729
Rye, bus	3,717	1,599	4,377
Oats, bus	11,784	14,535	25,929
Butter, pkgs	487	453	940
Bacon, lbs	10,570	17,211	27,816
Bacon, tcs	100	224	324
Potatoes, bus	615	600	1,215
Hay, bales	917	855	1,772

The quotations given in the following reports are prices realized in wholesale transactions, unless otherwise specified. On small sales, dealers will charge an advance. Prices of grain, unless stated to the contrary, are free in elevator.

Grain, Flour and Feed.

GRAIN—We have to report only the figures printed yesterday, with a slight change in rye. To begin with wheat, we quote prime Ohio and Pennsylvania red at $1 40@1 42 ⅜ bushel; amber do $1 45; white $1 45@1 50. Corn is still in good demand and sells readily at former quotations, though there are some large receipts reported. We quote old shelled at 55@ 56 ⅜ bushel for prime yellow and high mixed; new ear at 52@55c; prime new shelled 52@53c. Rye is uncertain at 60@61c ⅜ bushel for prime white; mixed 38@39c. Oats is in good supply, and up to the demand, and quoted at 34@35c. Barley is unchanged and quiet at 75@90c for good to prime spring; prime fall $1 10@1 15. Jobbing sales at the customary advance.

FLOUR—As we have said, quite active. We quote No 1 white wheat flour at $7 35@7 50 ⅜ barrel; No. 1 amber do $7 00@7 25; prime red wheat flour $6 50@6 75; white wheat flour $7 25@7 50; wisconsin $6 25@6 50; Minnesota $6 85@7 15; fancy St. Louis $6 75@6 25; Graham flour $5 50@6 25; cornmeal 70c ⅜ bushel; oatmeal $6 25 ⅜ barrel; rags $2 75; rye flour $4 25@4 50 ⅜ barrel.

HAY—There is nothing new to report, for there is scarcely anything done in that article at present and we continue to quote loose from wagon at $12 00@16 00 ⅜ ton. Baled from first hands $11 00@14 00 as to quality and condition. Prairie—Upland $8 00@9 00; lowland $6 00@7 00.

MILL FEED—Is quiet at the following rates: Bran $ 3 00@14 00 per ton; middlings $20 00@ 22 00; seconds and shipstuffs $15 00@17 00; chopped feed $20 00@22 00.

Country Produce.

APPLES—Apples are dull with prices as follows: Common 75c@$1 25 ⅜ bbl; prime $1 25@ 1 50.

APPLE BUTTER—Is dull also, and held at 10@ 45c ⅜ gallon.

BEESWAX—Dull and quoted at 28@30c ⅜ lb.

BUCKWHEAT—Is available in a quiet market at $1 65@1 90 for prime white navy.

BUTTER—Is in some demand in small lots, with prices unchanged from figures recently given. We quote as follows: Choice tubs at 30c as to quality; brush this week will work up 28@29c; medium green 24@26c; red-topped 24@25c; inferior not desired; crocked in fair demand at about 20c; roll butter about the prices given, as to quality.

BUTTERINE—Is a good demand for new crop at $1 50@1 75 per bushel.

CHEESE—There has been a good demand for new cream at $1 50@1 75 per bushel.

EGGS—The market is about steady at unchanged prices. Strictly fresh are scarce at 27 @28c ⅜ dozen; pickled are in large supply and quoted at 23@25c.

FEATHERS—Choice are quoted at 60@65c in wholesale lots; low grades 30@40c.

GAME—There is still a good supply in the market, and prices held up to those last noted. We quote as follows: Venison—Saddles 12@ 18c ⅜ lb; do hams 18@20c ⅜ lb, whole deer 10 @12c ⅜ lb. Geese 50@60c each. Ducks 40@50c ⅜ pair; canvas backs $1 00@1 25 each. Rabbits 25@30c per pair. Pheasants $3 00@3 50 per dozen. Prairie fowl $4 00@5 00 per dozen. Rabbits 25@30c per pair.

HONEY—We can report 7 c for table demand for new California at 22@25c ⅜ lb; domestic 20c ⅜ lb.

NUTS—Are in good supply and the market is easy. We quote chestnuts at $3 00 ⅜ bushel; walnuts 50c ⅜ bushel; hickory nuts $1 50@1 75 ⅜ bushel; shellbarks $1 50@1 75.

ONIONS—The market has been somewhat disturbed, and the quotation now is $1 75@2 00 ⅜ barrel.

POTATOES—There is nothing new to say of the poultry market, and but very slight changes in prices to note. We quote live chickens by the coop at 4@6c ⅜ lb; dressed 7@8c; ducks 5@6c ⅜ lb; dressed 10@12c ⅜ lb. Geese 50@60c each.

POTATOES—Are very active, and the supply not large. Prime peachblows from store are now held at $1 20@1 50 ⅜ bushel. The lower grades are held at 90@$1 05. Sweet potatoes are not in market.

VINEGAR—There is a moderate demand at 16 @18c ⅜ gallon for prime country stock; 14@15c for best city manufacture.

WOOL—New crop, active and quoted at 35@ 38c ⅜ lb.

Provisions.

Business in the different staples of hog products is steady though rather slow at unchanged prices. The tendency in pork and lard is somewhat in the direction of strength whichever staples are steady.

BACON—The market is steady. Jobbing quotations are as follows: Shoulders 5c ⅜ pound; hams 10½@11c; sides 10c.

CUT AND CURED MEATS—Hams were easy at 12c ⅜ lb for extra sugar-cured; shoulders are in fair demand at 6c; quote sugar-cured at 13½c. Sugar-cured shoulders were steady at 9½c. Dried beef, sugar-cured, was firm at 14½c. Beef tongues, ⅜ dozen, are quoted at $5 50.

LARD—Is in fair and market steady. We quote refined lard in tierces 11½c ⅜ lb; in half barrels 12c ⅜ lb; in buckets 12½c ⅜ lb; in 5-lb cadtis 13½c ⅜ lb; in 5-lb caddies 14 ⅜ lb; in 3-lb pans 15½c ⅜ lb; in 5-lb pails 16c ⅜ lb; in 6-lb pails 15c ⅜ lb. Leaf lard ranges at 10c in tierces.

LARD OIL—The market is quiet. We quote best winter at 90@95c; current make 65c; No. 1 do 55@60c; No. 2 do 45@50c; fancy bleached white winter, 95@98c; yellow winter, 85@90c.

MESS PORK—Is firm and higher at $16 00 per barrel.

TALLOW—We quote chandlers', city rendered, at 06@6c ⅜ lb; country do 5½@6c ⅜ lb; rough 3½@3½c ⅜ lb.

Groceries.

The market in staple and fancy groceries show some shat of an increase in activity, which is principally attributed to the approach of the holidays. Orders continue tolerably active and firm, the advance of last week being fully sustained. The advices from Rio Janerio have, as well as the scarcity of coffee in New York and a good demand, encouraged holders to maintain their prices. The stabilized position remains substantially the same as last year, still being in importers' favor. Sugar is quietly easy but not quotably lower here, while raw sugar is very dull in New York, with refined a little better. The following is a statement of the stocks of coffee in New York, Boston, Philadelphia and Baltimore at the date mentioned (totals for the four ports): Stock December 14, 1876, 20,808 tons; stock December 16, 1875, 47,000 tons; stock December 17, 1874, 60,000 tons; supplies coming forward Jan. 1st, 558,914 tons; same time last year, 625,313 tons; deliveries since January 1st, 504,391 tons; same time last year, 620,606 tons. Molasses is dull and rather lower, although the New Orleans market is rather firmer to-day. Teas are in good demand and steady, while spices, soaps, etc., are quiet and unchanged. Prices-current are as follows:

Green Coffees.	P. lb.	Sugars.	P. lb.
Rio, fair	20½	Standard A	11½@11¾
Choice Rio	23½	Standard B	11¼@11½
Prime Rio	22½	Do. extra C	11@11⅛
Good Rio	21½	Do. yellow C	10½@10¾
Ordinary Rio	19½	C—yellow	9¾@10c
Java, mixed	30½	Do. Paxtang	10@10¼
Roasted Coffees.		New Orleans	9¼@ 9¾c
Rio, in papers	26	Cut Loaf	13 c
Rio, in bulk	25	Crushed	13½c
Rio, in bulk, 22	23½	Powdered	12¾c
Java, in papers	31	Granulated	12½c
Java, in bulk	30	Molasses.	P. gal.
Teas.		Strip sh. N. O	60@62c
Young Hyson	35@41	Prime	55@58c
Gunpowder	35@50	Syrups.	
Imperial	30@37	Sx. white drips	51@55c
Japan ordinary	32@35	Sugar-drips	45@50c
Oolong	25@	Lower grades	25@40c
Fancy do	1	Starch.	P. lb.
Souchongs	35@ 75	Pearl	8½@8¾c
Spices (whole.)		Silver gloss	9½c
Cassia	65 c	Corn.	Glucose.
Allspice	17 c	Corn	6½@6¾c
Cassia	30@31 c	Choice Carlin	8¼@8½ c
Nutmegs	115 c	Shot	8¾c
Pepper	18 c	Sanogon	7 c
Ginger.		Loafsham	8 c
Irish soap, ⅜ box	4 50	Soda.	
S. S. Star, ⅜ box	4 75	31-carb, in kgs	3½@3¾ c
Hubbuck's, ⅜ box	4 25	31-carb, in boxes	3¾@4c
Gold dust, ⅜ box	4 25	31-carb, in papers	4½c
Extra olive do	4 50	Candles.	
No. 1, ⅜ box	3 50	Star, full wt'n	16 c
German mottled do	7 c	Stearine	11@13 c
California, ⅜ box	2 00	Mould	10@10½c
Fish.		Wicking	34 c

FISH—The market is moderately active with a fair demand and unchanged prices. Quotations are as follows:

	Per bbl.		Per bbl.
Extra No. 1 Mess		Round herring	4 00
Mackerel	27 00	Split Labrador do	6 00
Extra No. 1 shore	20 00	Lake Fish, hf-bbls	3 50
Extra No. 1 bay	17 00	Lake Herring, do	2 25
Extra No. 2 large	16 00	Lge Georges cod-	
No. 2 medium	11 50	fish, ⅜ b	6
No. 3	9 00	Medium Georges	5½
No. 3 medium	8 00	Halibut, ⅜ b	12½
Whitefish, hf-bbls	5 00	No. 1 Herring, ⅜ box	35
Lake Trout, do	4 00	Scaled herring do	40

FOREIGN FRUITS—There is a moderate trade. We quote as follows: Raisins—Layers, new, ⅜ box, $2 25; Valencias, new, $2 25; Muscatel $2 50; mat raisins $5 25 ⅜ mat; Valentias, new, 10½c ⅜ lb. Currants—Patras 12c. Dates 9½c ⅜ lb. Currants 7½c. Citron 30c. Prunes 6½c. Almonds—Ivica, planey 25c; do, hard shell 20c. Princess 37c; do Jordan 35c, do Ivica 23c. Walnuts—Naples 20c; Marbot, 15c; Sicily filberts 16c. Brazil nuts, new, 12c. Brazil nuts, old, 8c. Maccaroni 11@13c. Tapioca 10c. Lemons—Palermo, ⅜ box, $5 00. Oranges—Florida $3 50 ⅜ box. Cocoanuts $7 50 ⅜ hundred.

CANNED GOODS—Trade is fair at unchanged quotations. We quote green peas, 2 lb cans per doz, $2 25; raspberries do $2 00; strawberries do $1 75; gooseberries do $1 30; pineapples do, $2 20; blackberries do, 2 lb peaches, 2 lb cans per doz. $2 25; tomatoes do, $2 00; pickles, bbls, $6 50; half-bbls, $3 00.

Petroleum.

December 20.—The refined market was dull. Prices in the East were weak and sales of spot were made at a decline of 2c per gallon; futures held their own. The decline in the European market has caused a similar movement in the East. At New York spot was 30c offered for this month and early January, and 27½c for February; cases 34@35c. At Philadelphia and Baltimore it was held at 30c for December; 29c for the first half of January, and 27c for the first half of February. Refined 16 this P. M. the market was dull with light demand at 27c to the home trade 28c was the asking rate. How long these prices will be maintained would be difficult to guess.

PARKERS, December 20, 5:30 P. M.—The crude oil market has been further depressed to-day; prices declining 12¾@13c per barrel. United and Consolute opened at $1 26, and with slight fluctuations gradually declined to $1 20, the present price. The general tone of the market was heavy, and no disposition on the part of buyers to operate. Refined continues steady; holders asking 30@30c above certificates, with but few transactions. Shipments for the week 196 barrels—Oundust and United. Shipments from the lower district for Tuesday 49,533 barrels.

(By Western Union Telegraph.)

NEW YORK, December 20, closing 10.—The market has been heavy, further and closed weak and unsettled with exporters holding off and asking fresh offerings. We quote New York delivery as follows: Crude in bulk 16½ in barrels 16c; crude in tanks 15 casked in shipping order; refined in barrels 30c for late December; 29c for first half of January, and 27½c for first half of February; cases 35@37c. At Philadelphia and Baltimore refined rules at 30c for December; 29c for first half of January, and 27c for first half of February.

TITUSVILLE, December 20.—Market nominally $3 80.

OIL CITY, December 20.—Market dull, weak and declining; $3 02¾ bid, $3 05 asked for United; immediate shipment $3 77½@3 80.

ROUSEVILLE, December 20.—Market quiet and weak at $3 70@3 75.

TIDIOUTE, December 20.—Market quiet; held at $3 85.

PARKERS, December 20.—Market weak and unsettled: United $3 57½ bid; shipment nominally $3 60.

PHILADELPHIA, December 20.—Market steady; crude in bulk 15c; in barrels 18c; standard white 30c for December; 29c for January; cases 32c.

(By Associated Press.)

NEW YORK, December 20.—Petroleum dull; crude 15c; refined 30c; city naptha 15c.

BALTIMORE, December 20.—Petroleum—Crude easier at 13¾@12¾c; refined nominally 31c.

LIVERPOOL, December 20.—Refined petroleum 9½d; spirits do 14@15d.

LONDON, December 20.—Refined petroleum 26s.

ANTWERP, December 20.—Refined petroleum 55@60 francs.

MOVEMENTS OF PETROLEUM.

	Barrels.
Crude receipts, A. V. R. R	6,804
Refined shipments, A. V. R. R	1,538

Dry Goods.

The tendency of the season is to stimulate considerable activity into the demand for fashionable woolen goods and other seasonable fabrics, which have swelled up into a fair aggregate this week. Prices are steady and wholly unchanged from our list quoted below, with the exception of the drive which one prominent jobbing house is making on Berkshire ginghams. It is expected that this line of business will relapse into a healthy quiet, when the operations of stock-taking and annual settlements will occupy the attention of the trade. The jobbing price-list is unchanged, as follows:

BROWN SHEETINGS.

Width.	P'ce	Width.	P'ce
Anchor A No. 1	36 8	Harrisburg	4-4 7
Penn Mill do	4-4 8	Newbury	36 7
Penn Mill No. 1	36 7½	Lacoonia F	36 7½
Western trade	36 7	Laconia B	36 7¼
Ocean A	36 8	Laconia O	40 9
Avondale	36 8½	Laconia	4 4 22½
Conestoga A	39 9	Laconia	10-4 25
Conestoga	10-4 25	Waltham	40 11½
Chippewa C	28 5	Lawrence L L	4-4 7

BLEACHED SHEETINGS.

Our Own	37 8	Lonsdale	36 10½
Suffolk L	36 6½	Lonsdale Cam	36 14
Fairmount	36 7¾	Fruit of Loom	36 10½
Red Bank	36 7	Bay Mill	36 11½
Rochdale	36 8	Davol	36 11¾
Blackstone	36 9½	Wamsutta	36 13
White Rock	36 10	Cabot	42 11
Pocahontas	36 9¾	Pepperell	9-4 25
Hill	36 10	Pepperell	10-4 27½

GINGHAMS.

Lancaster	8½	Berkshire	8
Glasgow	8½	Eagle	7½
Renfrew dress style	10½	Plunkett's	8½

SHIRTING PRINTS.

Cocheco	6¾	Sprague's	6
Merrimac	6¾	Allen	6
Anchor	6	Allen	6
Oriental	6		

PRINTS.

Conestoga fa'cy	7	Oriental fancy	7
Hamilton fa'cy	7	Cocheco fancy	7
Garner fancy	6¾	Hartel	7
Amoskeag fa'cy	6	Berlin solid	7
Richmond	7	Simpson's black	7
Merrimac	7	" fast black	7
American fancy	7	" mourning	7
Southbridge	7		

DELAINES AND WORSTED DRESS GOODS.

(Pacific and Manchester Mills.)

34 Poplin Luster	16½	64 Alpacas G	20
34 Alpaca Luster	20	64 Alpacas X	22½
34 Coventry Alpaca	25	64 Mohair Cords	25
34 Pacific Twills	18	34 Pacific do	20
34 Pole Cloth	18½	34 Pacific do	22
34 Arabians	22½	64 D. D. W. Pop	32½

CANTON FLANNELS—BROWN.

Hamilton R	8	Franklin A	9½
Hamilton Stout	11½	Nashua A	9½
New Market O	8	Nashua E	12½
Arlington A	9	Park River	12½

CANTON FLANNELS—BLEACHED.

Mass. R	9	Fruit of Loom	12½
Tremont F	10	Lawrence AX	14
Tremont A	12		

TICKING.

Conestoga X	7-8	Thorndike	7-8
Conestoga A A	7-8	Portsmouth	7-8
Conestoga C	7-8	Portsmouth XX	8
" gold m'dl	14	Whittaker	7-8
" prem. A	14	Whittaker	4-4

MISCELLANEOUS.

White carpet chain	20	Col'd. carp't ch'n, fine	27
Cot'n bat	10@12½	Cotton twine	20

(By Associated Press.)

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GAME—There is still a good supply in the market, and prices held up to those last noted. We quote as follows: Venison—Saddles 12@ 18c ⅜ lb; do hams 18@20c ⅜ lb, whole deer 10 @12c ⅜ lb. Geese 50@60c each. Ducks 40@50c ⅜ pair; canvas backs $1 00@1 25 each. Rabbits 25@30c per pair. Pheasants $3 00@3 50 per dozen. Prairie fowl $4 00@5 00 per dozen. Rabbits 25@30c per pair.

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Ordinary Rio	19½	C—yellow	9¾@10c
Java, mixed	30½	Do. Paxtang	10@10¼c
Roasted Coffees.		New Orleans	9¼@ 9¾c
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Rio, in bulk	25	Crushed	13½c
Rio, in bulk, 22	23½	Powdered	12¾c
Java, in papers	31	Granul

CITY MATTERS.

For eighty-five cents per month the DAILY COMMERCIAL will be mailed to travelers or to subscribers who are temporarily absent from Pittsburgh. The address of the paper will be changed as often as is desired.

Weather Report.

OFFICE OF THE OBSERVER, U. S. SIG. SERV., ROOM 23, FIRST NATIONAL BANK, PITTSBURGH, PA., December 20, 1876.

Time.	Bar.	Th'r.	Hum	Dir.	Miles P Hour	Weath.
7 A. M..	30 472	8	100	N.	3	Foggy.
2 P. M..	30 338	2	64	E.	6	Haz.
9 P. M..	30 118	30	88	N.E.	2	Foggy.

Mean barometer....29.254 Highest thermom... 31
Mean thermom.....17.2 Lowest thermom... 7

"Chicago Caramels,"

McDonald's, No. 134 Wood street.

Iron City College

corner Penn avenue and Sixth street, Pittsburgh. Day and evening sessions. Students admitted at any time. For terms call on, or address J. G. Smith, A. M. Principal.

Sudden Death.

James S. Warren, aged sixteen years, died suddenly about seven o'clock yesterday morning, at the residence of his parents, on Thirty-fifth street, between Butler street and Penn avenue. Coroner McCallin held an inquest in the case, the jury finding that death was caused by heart disease.

Burned to Death.

Bella Abbott, aged three years, daughter of Mr. P. C. Abbott, died yesterday morning from injuries received the day before, at the house of Mr. Robert Dalzell, on Wylie avenue, in the following manner: The child had been left in charge of her grandmother, Mrs. Dearing, residing with Mr. Dalzell. She was left in an up stairs room for an instant, when, according to the statement of a five-year old cousin, she commenced fanning the fire with her apron. The fire communicated to her clothing, and in an instant she was enveloped in flames. Her cries attracted Mr. Dalzell and Mrs. Dearing, grandmother, and after considerable trouble they succeeded in extinguishing the fire. By this time, however, the child was fearfully burned about the breast, arms and face, and had inhaled the flames.

Death of Henry S. Ringwalt.

Mr. Henry S. Ringwalt, at one time Secretary and Treasurer of the Board of Managers of the Reform School, died on Tuesday at Dixmont Insane Hospital. The deceased, it will be remembered, left this vicinity immediately on the discovery of the misappropriation of the funds of the House of Refuge several years ago. The authorities, for various reasons, did not try very hard to learn his whereabouts or to bring him back for trial. He has been confined in Dixmont hospital for several months past as a patient, which fact will go far to exonerate his guilt in the Refuge matter, because it is a question whether or not he was in his right mind when he had control of the financial affairs of that institution. Up to the time of the embezzlement, Mr Ringwalt bore an irreproachable character, which, in connection with his confinement in Dixmont, will impress all favorably in regard to the theory that he was an honest but unfortunate man, and was laboring under temporary insanity when the criminal acts he was accused of were committed, and gradually growing worse he finally became totally deranged.

U. P. Presbytery of Westmoreland.

This Presbytery was in session at Turtle Creek on Tuesday, the 19th instant. The opening sermon was preached by Rev. S. B. McBride on I. Cor. 1:21. Rev. Alex. Young, D. D., LL. D., was chosen Moderator.

A call from McKeesport for Rev. James Kelso was accepted.

A call from Bethel (Westmoreland) for Rev. J. N. Dick, D. D., was accepted.

A call from New Lisbon, Ohio, for Rev. A. H. Elder was accepted by that brother at the Presbytery of Cleveland to which he had been certified. He enters on his labors there with the beginning of the new year.

Calls from Buena Vista and Mt. Pleasant for Rev. R. B. Taggart await the pleasure of that brother.

A new organization with fair promise was reported at Connellsville.

An interesting and satisfactory conference was held on Church Finance.

The following were elected commissioners to the General Assembly to meet next May, at Sparta, Illinois: Revs. E. N. McElree, James Kelso, and T. F. Patterson and Messrs. Samuel Wardea, John D. Gill, and R. H. Grey.

The matter of uniting "Parnassus" with either Apollo or Logan's Ferry, as a pastoral charge, was referred to a special committee to report at the spring meeting.

Rev. Robert Crothers of the Presbyterian Church, on invitation sat as a consultative member, and made a good speech in the conference.

Brother Young's people entertained Presbytery handsomely.

Adjourned to meet, at Bethel (West moreland,) the second Tuesday of April, to install Dr. Dick.

"Chicago Caramels,"

McDonald's, No. 134 Wood street.

ALLEGED EMBEZZLEMENT.

A Genesee Cheese Maker Prosecutes Two of Our Commission Merchants — Bail Entered for Court.

Mr. C. L. Kinne, of Genesee county, N. Y., appeared before Alderman McMasters last evening and made information charging J. A. and E. A. Graff, composing the firm of J. A. Graff & Son, commission merchants, on Liberty street, with embezzlement. The allegations of Mr. Kinne are, in substance, that he is a manufacturer and dealer in cheese; that nearly three months ago he consigned to the accused a lot of cheese, valued at $1,001 55, which they sold on commission; that the defendants, after having disposed of the cheese, telegraphed the deponent to draw on their firm at thirty days, which he did, and the draft was protested; that the defendants, after this, asked for further time, giving the deponent assurances that a second draft at thirty days would be duly honored; that the deponent accordingly drew again, and the second draft was protested like the first. Mr. Kinner, becoming alarmed about his money, came to this city, and meeting with little encouragement at the hands of the defendants, he employed counsel, upon the advice of whom he entered the prosecution as above stated. The defendants were arrested and, waiving a hearing, entered bail in the sum of $2,000 for their appearance at the March term of the Court of Quarter Sessions.

CITY MATTERS IN BRIEF.

THREE boys escaped from the Reform School at Morganza on Saturday.

TWO cases of small-pox were reported in the Sixth ward, Allegheny, yesterday.

JOSHUA NUTTALL, formerly engineer at the Allegheny Water Works, is a candidate for Superintendent of the works.

LORENZ HOLDEN, drunkard and vagrant, was yesterday retired to the big cooper shop at Claremont, by Mayor Phillips.

JAMES CUNNINGHAM, charged with deserting his wife, Eliza Hutchins, was committed for trial yesterday by Alderman Thomas.

BRIDGET CARR was yesterday committed to jail by Alderman McMasters for trial on a charge of assault and battery. Mrs. Kreuser is the party that was battered.

ANOTHER alleged shoplifter was arrested yesterday in Wm. Semple's store, on Federal street, Allegheny, by Officer Mitchell. She was held for a hearing under the name of Mrs. Morrison.

Two vagrant tramps named George Johnson and Charles Brown were before Mayor Phillips, of Allegheny, yesterday. They will "hoe'em up" for the next ninety days at Cordier's cooper shop.

WILLIAM A. STROUP, a resident of Herr's Island, employed at H. Omsler's ice house, near the bridge at that point, yesterday morning, fell upon an ice hook and received a very severe wound in the hip.

J. MICHAEL BREISENDERFER, a young match peddler, was heard by Mayor Phillips yesterday on the charge of larceny of a silver watch, valued at about ten dollars, the property of Jacob Wallace. The youth, in default of $500 bail, was committed for trial.

MR. JOHN RENTEL, the late manager of the Excelsior Oil Works, who was injured by an explosion at the works a couple of weeks ago, died on Monday at his residence in Freedom, Beaver county. He leaves a wife and two small children.

SHORTLY before eight o'clock last evening some excitement was created at the foot of Wylie street, and quite a crowd collected. Some one had discovered an Italian in the second floor room of the building No. 1 flogging a boy who was tied with a clothes line. A policeman went up and the father denied the flogging.

ABRAHAM M. DE HART, a well known citizen of Reading, died lately. During the war he was inspector of shot and shell at the Scott Foundry, Reading, and also at Fort Pitt Foundry, Pittsburgh. The deceased was an excellent mineralogist, and was for a number of years engaged in leasing tracts of iron ore land in this section of the State.

"Chicago Caramels,"

McDonald's, No. 134 Wood treet.

PRESENTS! PRESENTS!! PRESENTS!!!

Christmas, 1876. New Year, 1877.

Notwithstanding the great demand, I still have a large lot and fine assortment of Ladies' Solid Gold Unredeemed Watches at $15, $16, $17 and $18, at Emanuel De Roy's Only Loan Office, 153 Smithfield street, in the *Gazette* building, 153. No branch stores, 153.

HOME AGAIN.

Reappearance of the Cashier of the Nation Trust Company.

HIS FOOT UPON HIS NATIVE HEATH.

Robert J. Grier Arrives Home and Will Soon Speak His Piece.

Mr. Robert J. Grier, "the missing cashier," returned to his home yesterday, and is stopping with his brother in Allegheny city. He had previously telegraphed the attorneys of the Nation Trust Company stockholders of his coming, but the matter was kept quiet and Robert stepped into the city quietly and unannounced, and beyond the reception of the attorneys, his relatives and a few intimate friends he, for the present, desires to remain in privacy. Mr. Grier departed from the city over three years since; to be exact, he was last seen at the late office of the bank named on Saturday, November 15, 1873, since which time his whereabouts has been the subject of much discussion by the newspapers and people generally, and of anxiety to quite a number. For some time previous to the date named there had been a "run" upon the bank and a courageous effort was made by the directors and stockholders to satisfy the demands of depositors. The departure of the cashier, with, as it was thought by many, a large portion of the assets of the concern, was the finishing blow and the company succumbed and closed their doors on Tuesday, November 18, 1873.

MISSING WATER BONDS.

A few days after ward rumors were rife of irregularities in one of the departments of the city government by which the city had been defrauded of a large amount of money. The first definite information on the subject was given to the public in an official communication from City Attorney Bigelow to the late Colonel William Phillips, then Chairman of the Finance Committee, said communication being read in Councils, Monday, November 24, 1873. From this statement it appeared that the late Mr. John Ross, then Secretary of the Water Commission, had deposited money and bonds amounting to $514,000 with the Nation Trust Company. This aggregate was made up as follows: Proceeds of bonds sold, $223,000; water bonds in with the bank for negotiation, $254,000; Thirty-third street improvement bonds, $50,000, less a credit of $13,000. The bonds not sold had been hypothecated for or in behalf of the Trust Company, in Philadelphia, as collateral security for the payment of obligations of the bank.

Councils ordered an investigation by the Finance Committee.

Meantime the then City Controller, Robert J. McGowan, filed a bill in equity against the stockholders of the Trust Company praying for an injunction against them to prevent their using the assets, asking that a receiver be appointed and that a settlement of the late co-partnership be made. The stockholders of the bank held meetings endeavoring to find out the exact state of affairs and to raise sufficient money or collateral to satify the claims against them. On Saturday, December 6th, the Finance Committee which, had previously held secret sessions, opened the doors and the investigation was made public. On that day prosecutions were directed against the Secretary of the Water Commission, three directors of the bank, and the ex-cashier of the bank. The informations were for conspiracy. Nothing ever came of the prosecutions and until the year bond to secure steal has ever since occupied public attention. Mr. Ross died, and all efforts to discover the whereabouts or bring back Mr. Grier having failed. The stockholders of the Trust Company made a compromise with the city and made part payment thereon. There is now due and promised daily the balance amounting to $240,000.

The recent efforts to procure a pardon for Grier to induce him to come back and explain matters here are well known to our readers. A conditional pardon is promised and that he has accepted. What is wanted is to know what became of the half million dollars of the city's money, and that is what Mr. Grier is expected to tell. In what shape his story is to be heard we do not know. That he is fully prepared to explain matters there seems no doubt, as the attorneys for the stockholders but recently visited him, taking with them the books of the concern for his examination.

All citizens will await anxiously for Mr. Grier to speak.

THE TEMPERANCE WORK.

Proceedings of the Meeting Last Night.

Although the hour announced for the opening exercises to begin is 7½ o'clock, *the spacious* Fifth avenue Church was filled to overflowing long before that time with a patient and expectant audience. The proceedings of the meeting were characterized by the same intense earnestness and Christian kindness in all that was said and done, which has been conspicuously noticeable in these gatherings ever since the advent of Mr. Murphy in our midst, and to which can be attributed no small share of the wonderful success attending these meetings. The noonday prayer meetings which are held each day in this church have grown in interest to such a degree that the large auditorium is crowded at each meeting, and the interest felt by all classes of persons in these meetings is indeed a very encouraging and hopeful sign.

The exercises of the evening were begun by Mr. Murphy reading a portion of the 49th chapter of Isiah, after which Rev. Alex. Clarke offered prayer.

Mr. Murphy in his remarks said: "The reform will only succeed as long as we keep the Redeemer in it. Nothing in this world will save us but Christ, kindness and love one toward the other. It is an easy thing to sign the pledge, but it is another thing to keep it, and nothing but the grace of God will help you to keep it. Sign the pledge not only to abstain from the use of intoxicating liquors but also to give your heart to God."

After Mr. Murphy's remarks the usual five minutes speeches were made by converts. Mr. John McCullough said: "Through the prayers of a devoted Christian wife I became a reformed man; used to be a hard drinker; I feel that I am a redeemed man from the curse of rum, and bless God for it."

Mr. George Miller was the next speaker, and said: "I can tell you that I am a saved man though the Lord knows that I was used to be a very hard drinker, but the prayers of a Christian wife have been answered, God's grace has taken the appetite for strong drink away from me, and I am now a joyful, happy man."

Mr. Kirkpatrick said: "Dear friends, I can say since I have signed the pledge some three weeks ago, I have given my heart to God and to-night feel that I am a saved man."

Mr. Wiss said: "To-night two weeks ago I signed the pledge and I hope, by the grace of God, I may be able to keep it to the day of my death."

Mr. McMunn said: "My heart is thoroughly enlisted in this work. I never was a free citizen until I signed the pledge."

At the close of the meeting a large number of signatures were obtained to the pledge.

ALLEGHENY REPUBLICANS.

The City Executive Committee to Meet Next Tuesday Evening.

Henry M. Long, Esq., Chairman of the City Republican Executive Committee, has called a meeting of its members for Tuesday evening next, in the Common Council Chamber, for the purpose of reorganizing, and preparing for the municipal election.

We herewith publish the names of the original committee, of which, as it will be perceived, some have removed from the wards from which they were appointed, while others have left the city. The matter of filling vacancies will be considered at the coming meeting.

First ward—H. M. Long, W. D. Bois, and Alex. Hanna.

Second ward—Alfred Slack, George D. Riddle, William Stuart, W. H. Dunlap, Thomas Ward and John A. Myers.

Third ward—Walter Kelley, James D. Walker, Arthur Hobson, James Marshall, G. P. Beilstein, Jr., H. K. Tyler and S. A. Neale.

Fourth ward—Peter Walter, Jr., Wm. C. Smythe, Josiah Fatherun, Hugh McNeil, John A. Myler and John Megraw.

Fifth ward—William Faulkner, W. C. Cooke, William M. Claney and W. J. Gurney.

Seventh ward—C. C. Hax, John Haworth, James Dewhurst, Frank Hoff, A. G. Price, John Bollen, Jr.

Eighth ward—George Moul, H. F. Eggers, R. Nesmith, Samuel McRoberts, Wm. Oakley and John Williams.

Ninth ward—Joseph Chiverton, Thomas B. Jones, B. Canham and David Davis.

Tenth ward—George W. Day, J. O. S. Golden, T. F. Grubbs and George Snaman.

Eleventh ward—C. H. Hartman, T. Wechbob, W. G. Stubbs and J. W. Clement.

The First ward should be represented by five members.

Prize Fight.

Last evening, at a saloon on Water street, a prize fight was agreed upon between John Howe and J. Savage. The preliminaries were speedily arranged, and the principals, with their seconds, spongers, backers and bottle-holders, repaired to the river bank, near the Connellsville depot, where they stripped themselves of superfluous garments and went to work. At the close of the second round Officer Wm. Fowler appeared upon the scene, whereupon there was a stampede on the part of the crowd. The officer, however, succeeded in capturing Howe, one of the principals, who was escorted to the Central Station. Efforts are on foot to arrest Savage, which it is believed will be successful.

"Chicago Caramels,"

McDonald's, No. 134 Wood street.

THE SILK ROBBERY.

The Case of Barclay and Ellis Heard Before the Mayor—The Former Discharged and the Latter Committed for Trial.

The hearing in the case of John Ferguson Barclay and George Ellis, *alias* George Wallace, charged with the larceny of a lot of silks from the store of Boggs & Buhl, in Allegheny, took place before Mayor McCarthy yesterday. Colonel Thomas M. Bayne appeared as counsel for the prisoners.

The first witness called was Mr. Buhl, who testified that the store of his firm, on Federal street, had been entered on Wednesday evening, the 15th inst., and robbed of a large amount of silks, laces, &c.

F. X. Lang, a wagon maker, was next called. He testified that an Tuesday evening a man came to him and bargained for the hire of a spring wagon. He came on Wednesday evening between five and six o'clock and took the wagon away. He did not know at what time the wagon had been returned as it was done after the shop was closed. The man brought a little grey pony and hitched it to the wagon. The man who took the wagon away was to the best of the witness' belief George Ellis, the prisoner. The witness was cross-examined. He said he could not describe the dress Ellis had on, but he was almost confident it was the man. He thought the wagon was dirty.

Mr. Daughenbaugh testified that he saw Ellis, or a man exactly like him, driving the little grey pony in a spring wagon on Wednesday afternoon. He was driving down Third avenue, Pittsburgh.

Henry Keger testified to seeing Ellis and another man buying the little grey horse on Federal street, Pittsburgh. Towards evening he saw the horse hitched to a spring wagon and Ellis standing near them.

Mrs. Shauer and Mrs. Partridge, residents on Decatur street, testified that they had seen Ellis with the horse and wagon between five and six o'clock on Wednesday afternoon. The former saw a trunk in the wagon, and the latter said she could not be mistaken as to the identity of Ellis, as she had seen him often.

Mr. Eisenbeis testified that on Wednesday evening he came to the front door of his store at Federal and Water streets, Allegheny, and noticed a horse hitched to the post; at ten minutes past seven, when he went to supper, the horse was still there; one hour afterward he returned and it was still there; he then went up to it, and it was tied with a white rope; the pony standing there with his head down so long is what attracted his attention; the pony shown him by Officer Johnson looks like the horse hitched in front of his store; he had stood there probably for three hours; noticed him first before six o'clock, and he was there until long after eight o'clock.

Mr. McKelvey testified as follows: Noticed a horse at our hitching post between five and six o'clock Wednesday evening; it is nothing unusual for a horse to be hitched in front of his store; he left about supper the horse was still there, and there was a trunk in the wagon; the horse was a gray and small one; I am employed in the same store with Mr. Eisenbeis.

Mr. Thompson sworn—Am night watchman at English's building on Fourth avenue; the officers showed me the pony and wagon; saw the pony before on Wednesday evening, in front of our building; saw the trunk taken from the wagon; the goods taken to the room belonged to Messrs. Boggs & Buhl; would know the man if I would see them; can't recognize Ellis and Ferguson as the men; Ferguson looks to be too large; Ellis does not appear to be the man; one of them had on a light overcoat.

Cross-examined—Saw the buggy in front of the building between ten and eleven o'clock Wednesday night; I helped the men up with the goods; saw only one man, the other had gone down stairs; Ferguson looks to be too large for one of the men who went down stairs, and I can't say that Ellis is the other man.

Officer Johnson called—The horse and wagon which I showed all the witnesses is the same one which started from Mr. Lang's shop, and which he said was hired by Ellis.

Mr. English sworn—Think Mr. Ellis rented the room in which the goods of Boggs & Buhl were found; have the receipt for the moneyon December 9th; Ellis looks like the man; think he had on a lighter overcoat; he had dark hair, dark eyes and otherwise resembles Ellis.

To the Mayor—If I were talking to you, and not under oath, I would say Ellis is the man, but I would not like to swear it positively.

The Mayor here stated that the case for the Commonwealth was closed, whereupon Colonel Bayne asked for the discharge of Ferguson.

The Mayor—There is no evidence against Mr. Ferguson, and he is discharged.

Colonel Bayne then said that the failure of the watchman of English's building to identify Ellis was a failure on the part of the Commonwealth to connect him with the corpus delicti—the body of the offense —and he therefore asked that he be discharged.

The Mayor could not agree with the counsel, and decided to hold Ellis in $2,000 bail to answer. He was committed to jail for trial.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL.

Second Day's Session—Report on Home Mission—A Church Extension Board Authorized.

The Methodist Episcopal Conference for the Pittsburgh District reassembled yesterday morning at Christ Church.

After religious exercises and some routine business, Mr. T. N. Boyle, P. E. of the Pittsburgh district, made reports and statements in regard to the condition of the Church in his district.

M. Ball, D.D., of West Virginia Conference, made a speech in which he showed the condition of the Church there.

The district stewards made their reports which were found satisfactory and were ordered to be filed.

After religious exercises at the afternoon session, a motion was made and adopted directing the appointment of another District Conference during the current year.

Union Conference proceeded to select the place of meeting for next District Conference, and Emory, Fifth Avenue, Smithfield Street, Christ Church, Bingham Street, Wesley Chapel and Trinity were nominated, and Fifth Avenue, having received fourteen, the highest number of votes cast, was selected.

Upon the call for reports on Sunday Schools, it was found that no Superintendents were present.

HOME MISSIONS AND CHURCH EXTENSION.

The Committee on Home Missions reported as follows:

It is with pleasure your committee report that there is now a society in existence having the work of Home Missions in this city in charge, known as the Ladies' Home Missionary Society, and that it has been doing a good work in the past, and is still successfully prosecuting that work, we feel that about all we can now do is to make a suggestion or two touching this subject.

1. We recommend that such a distribution of the services of local preachers be made as will fully supply the Thirty-third street church a part of the time, and allow the City Missionary to devote a part of his time to the supervision of other mission points within our bounds.

2. We urge the churches within our bound to give this Home Missionary Society their sympathies and systematic financial aid.

3. We recommend the appointment of a Board of one minister and one layman from each charge, of which the Presiding Elder shall be ex-officio Chairman, this Board to be an Advisory Board in the building of all new churches within the bounds of the district and the management of all church building enterprises hereafter commenced. Without the approval of this committee no new church shall be located or built, and no enterprise presented to the churches of the district for help with the endorsement of this district conference; and we pledge ourselves to discourage all such movements.

The report was adopted as above, though not in the same shape as when presented.

Chaplain McCabe next addressed the conference, giving information on the conduct of the business of the National Board of Church Extension.

It was reported that the Committee of Stewards had fixed the amount of the salary of the Presiding Elder for the coming year at $1,800.

The Presiding Elder reported that the Committee on Appointments of Local Preachers were not able at this time to report a plan, but recommended a committee of three on the subject.

On motion, Revs. A. H. Miller, Kincaid and Smith were appointed.

Adjourned.

THE PLOW WORKS ACCIDENT.

Coroner's Investigation of the Death of George Richards—The Jury Find that the Accident Resulted Through the Negligence of the Proprietor of the Works.

Alderman Larkin and a jury held an investigation at the Coroner's office, last evening, in the case of George Richards, who died on Monday evening of injuries received by falling through the hatchway of an elevator at the plow works of J. C. Bidwell, on Duquesne way. The testimony showed that the deceased, who was an employee at the works, fell through the hatchway from the first floor to the cellar, about twelve feet, between six and seven o'clock on Wednesday evening of last week; that he laid in the cellar and hour and a quarter before he was discovered, and that shortly after eight o'clock his father came to the works and carried him to his home, on Quarry street, Allegheny. It also appeared that one side of the hatchway was unguarded, and that there was no gas jet near it to warn persons of danger. The jury, after hearing the testimony, found that the accident was the result of negligence on the part of the proprietor of the works, in failing to have proper guards and lights about the elevator.

The father of the deceased was a member of the Allegheny police force under Mayor Callow, and was also a member of the Fire Department of that city. He is a worthy citizen, and has the sympathies of many friends in his sad bereavement. His deceased son was a young man of most exemplary character, and was highly esteemed by his associates.

"Chicago Caramels,"

McDonald's, No. 134 Wood street.

POSTOFFICE DEFALCATION.

The Chief Money Order Clerk Absconds With Some $8,000.

The community heard with astonishment yesterday of a defalcation in the money order department of the postoffice. There were many rumors afloat as to the amount of the loss and the particulars of the affair, and, indeed, the amount abstracted is not yet definitely known, but cannot exceed $10,000, and may be considerably less. The *modus operandi* of the defaulting clerk, how he managed to cover up his tracks, is not yet known, but certain it is that his peculations must have covered a period of some weeks, if not months.

THE DEFAULTING CLERK

is Mr. W. C. Wall, about thirty-four years of age and having a family. He has held the position of head clerk in the department for some two years past and for a number of years previously had held several subordinate positions. He commenced service in the postoffice as a letter carrier and was always believed to be attentive and trustworthy. Latterly, however, Wall is known by many to have been keeping bad company, not only of men but women, and from this in a great measure may his downfall be traced.

DISCOVERY OF THE DEFALCATION.

Colonel Negley has lately been in Washington transacting business with the department, and during this time it is believed the larger part of the money was stolen. Upon the return of the Postmaster, a day or two ago, his suspicions were directed toward Wall, and the Postmaster's suspicions and close examination of his accounts disclosed to the latter that his detection was at hand. Wall accordingly prepared himself with all the funds he could gather on Tuesday, and yesterday failed to put in an appearance at the office. The state of affairs was evident, and information for embezzlement was at once made before United States Commissioner McCandless, who at once issued a warrant for Wall's arrest. The Chief of Police was informed of the matter, and the detectives went at once to work to discover whether the missing young man had left the city. So far as could be learned up to a late hour last night, it was the belief of the police that if Wall had left the city at all it was on foot.

AMOUNT OF THE LOSS.

As before stated the actual amount of the loss is not known, and cannot be until transcripts of returns are received from Washington. It is said that yesterday morning soon after the opening of the Tradesmen's National bank, the government depository, Wall had drafts cashed to the amount of $2,500, while another has it that Wall was seen on the street as late as half past ten o'clock. It is said that Wall burned a lot of papers and records so that there may be difficulty in promptly ascertaining the amount of the loss. The bond of the missing clerk is for $3,000. Mr. William E. Tustin being surety.

The circumstance which first aroused suspicion against Wall, was the receipt of a letter from Uniontown, connecting Wall with the late conspiracy to defraud the National bank of this place. This was received while Postmaster Negley was at Washington, and was opened by one of the subordinates in the Money Department, who supposed it contained official business. In addition to this it is said that Northam, one of Downer's companions, telegraphed to Wall on Saturday last, and looked down and asked that $120, he sent him. It is not believed that Wall had anything to do with Downer and his companions in their operations, but he is known to have frequented Downer's saloon.

COURT PROCEEDINGS.

United States Circuit Court—Judge McKennan.

The argument in the case of Mary Kernaghan vs. Noble Thompson *et al.*, commenced on Tuesday, was continued yesterday.

United States District Court—Judge Ketcham.

S. M. Humphreys, bankrupt, Erie county. Petition for discharge presented, and final examination ordered before Register Woodruff.

Ziegler, Baker & Co., bankrupts, Westmoreland county. Register March ordered to make distribution of the funds in hands of assignee, and assignee directed to refund to petitioning creditors the sum advanced to secure costs.

A. G. Snow, bankrupt, Luzerne county. Discharged from all his debts.

Michael Bigler, bankrupt, Luzerne county. Petition of assignee for discharge presented, and order made for examination before Register Willard.

Peter Campbell, bankrupt, Westmoreland county. Argument on Register's report distributing fund. Decision of court withheld.

Elder & Fair, debtors, Clarion county. Order to show cause why H. Fair should not be adjudged a bankrupt. In same case restraining order granted against certain execution creditors.

Lenton & White vs. John Mitchell, debtor, Lawrence county. Hearing on motion for injunction continued to the 28th inst.

Wettach, Couch & Co., bankrupts, Pittsburgh. Fifth National Bank designated depository for the fund in this case.

Common Pleas No. 1—Judges Sterrett and Collier.

[Robert Stevenson vs. Edward Kelly and John Doyle; action for damages for having been ejected from a house. Jury out.

Lane & McAlister vs. E. D. Wilt and Sarah Wilt, his wife. Verdict for plaintiffs for $64 77.

R. T. Taylor vs. C. Scully, guardian of Mary and Kate Guthrie. Verdict for plaintiff for $587 05.

H. H. Rock vs. George Stewart. Verdict for plaintiff for $543 42.

L. W. Morgan vs. Thomas Fawcett *et al.* Motion and reasons for new trial.

D. L. Patterson & Co. vs. Mulvehill, Gumbert & Co., owners of the steamboat Tom Rees No. 2; action for rent for landing. On trial.

James McKibbon vs. the Blair Iron and Steel Company *et al.* Leave granted to strike off the name of Thomas A. Scott as one of the defendants in the case. The action in this case was for materials furnished. Verdict against the Blair Iron and Steel Company for $987 81, and against the other defendants for $676 51, subject to opinion of the Court on question of law reserved.

Muntland & Scott vs. the same. Same motion granted as in above case. Also for materials furnished. Verdict against the Blair Iron and Steel Company for $1,472 30, and against the other defendants for the same amount, also subject to the opinion of the Court.

Common Pleas No. 2—Judges Kirkpatrick and White.

William Richardson vs. the Allemania Fire Insurance Company; action on an insurance policy on property in Brownstown, Westmoreland county. Verdict for plaintiff for $865 65.

Daniel Bushnell, for use of Lockhart & Frew, vs. the Union Reaping and Storing Company. On trial.

Jane Caldwell vs. Xavier Walz; action against surety for rent. Juror withdrawn and cause continued.

Mary A. Anderson vs. Joel K. Vankirk. Rule on plaintiff to show cause why appeal should not be quashed.

John Huckestein vs. Wacher. Rule to show cause why judgment of no pros. should not be set aside and appeal quashed.

Orphans' Court—Judge Hawkins.

Louis Berger was appointed guardian of John, Wm. and Albert Burrey, minors, bond in $500 to be given.

Wm. Robinson, late deceased. Petition presented and Wm. H. Shoenberger discharged.

Mary Watson, deceased. J. E. McKelvy appointed guardian *ad litem* of Margaret and Robert Barker, and Dr. James Mc Carroll, guardian *ad litem* of Agnes F. Watson, Elisha P. Watson and Wm. F. Watson.

Laura E. Moore and Lucy E. Abrams, minors. Henry C. Moore appointed guardian.

Jennie H. Abrams, minor. Henry C. Moore appointed geardian.

Sarah A. Feikamp and Mary S. Snare, minors. William H. Reed appointed guardian.

AUDIT LIST FOR TO-DAY.

John Snyder, Jacob Brown, Henry Wissman, Francis Gazzola, James Campbell, Hugh Brown, Wm. Dunn, Margaret Pomeroy, John E. McGirr, minor children of James Watt, deceased.

Oyer and Terminer—Judge Stowe.

THE LINKNER MURDER TRIAL.

At the opening of court, Mr. Gibson began his address to the jury, in defense of Henry Linkner, charged with the murder of Henry Schaffer. The strongest point made against the prisoner was the fact that the pocket-book of the deceased had been found on his person at the time of his arrest. The force of this testimony, the counsel claimed, had been very materially weakened, if not wholly broken by one of the witnesses for the defense, who testified that he had seen Linkner with Schaffer's pocket book two days before the murder—that the two men were partners in business, and that it would not be strange if Schaffer had given both his money and pocket book to Linkner. Mr. Gibson spoke four hours, and held that the prisoner was entitled to a verdict of acquittal.

District Attorney Monteoth made the closing speech for the Commonwealth, and made a very forcible application of the law to the facts as proven on the trial. He claimed that the Commonwealth had made out a clear case of murder, from an unbroken chain of circumstantial evidence, which would justify any jury in finding a verdict of guilty.

Judge Stowe delivered an impartial charge to the jury, concluding his remarks a little before five o'clock. The jury then retired, and the court soon after adjourned until this morning.

Warm Air Furnaces.

At this season every one is anxious to make his home or business office comfortable, and in this connection the advertisement of Messrs. Weldon & Kelley, of No. 147 Wood street, is of interest. This firm is an old and well established one, of excellent reputation and may be relied upon. They will guarantee satisfaction in every instance. Messrs. Weldon & Kelly also manufacture hotel and family cooking ranges. Give them a call if you want anything in their line.

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PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

Pittsburgh Opera House.

Of all the new plays produced here lately, Miss Maggie Mitchell's "Mignon" is entitled to take the highest rank as to merit. Unlike most dramatic works prepared to order for stars, there are several good characters aside from the heroine, namely: *Wilhelm Meister, Sparati, Gyp, Romaine* and *Philina*. The plot is interesting, the situations sufficiently striking, and the language beautiful. As *Mignon* Miss Mitchell displays powers not before suspected. Her acting throughout the play is remarkable for its intensity, yet is always consistent and even. She is deservedly applauded at many points in the play, and notably in the mirror scene. It is, we think fully equal if not superior to her *Fanchon, Amy* or *Jane Eyre*.

Mr. William Harris, Mr. Gotthold, Mr. Stockwell, Mr. Bock, Mr. Willard, Mr. McDonald and Miss Fletcher and Mrs. Holmes deserve praise for their careful and altogether satisfactory impersonation of the characters entrusted to them. As to scenery and mounting, it is highly creditable to the theater

"Mignon" will be repeated this evening.

Next week the successful melodrama, "Not Guilty," from the pen of Mr. Watts Phillips, will be presented with a cast including Mr. J. N. Gotthold and the Opera House company. It has been in preparation for some time, and will go splendidly, no doubt, on its first presentation. Some of Mr. Authur Palmer's best work will be showen in new scenery gotten up expressly for "Not Guilty, which will be played for the first time at a matinee on Monday afternoon.

Library Hall—The Minstrels.

The largest audience of the week was present last night to enjoy the fun furnished by Emerson's California minstrels. And it's the right kind of fun, too; nothing in the slightest degree vulgar or broad. It has been many a long day since anything approaching it in merit has been furnished here. The singing is exceptionally good, the dancing fine, and the comic business ever so funny. The gathering together of so many excellent performers is highly creditable to Mr. Emerson, and it is gratifying to know that the public appreciate his labors. It is really worth all it costs for the whole performance to hear the ballad singing of J. G. Russell and Beaumont Read, while any one of the songs participated in by Billy Emerson and Ben Cotton will furnish laughter for a week. The camp meeting hymns are rendered in the Southern style by Mackin and Wilson. Ernest Linden's burlesque prima donna business is simply immense. Don't fail to hear the Emerson minstrels. They give a new feast of fun to-night.

Miss Rose Eytinge.

Miss Rose Eytinge will appear at Library Hall on Monday afternoon and evening, and during the week, supported by Eisler & Canning's splendid company. At the Christmas matinee "Leah's Sacrifice" will be given, and also in the evening. During the remainder of the week the "Geneva Cross" will be played.

Boucicault.

Boucicault's comedy company will follow Miss Eytinge at Library Hall, with the farcical comedy of "Forbidden Fruit," written by Mr. Boucicault.

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Notwithstanding the immense number of persons who have thronged our stores during the past few days, we have been fully able to attend to the wants of all, and as we have increased our force very largely we will be enabled to give the best attention to every person who may favor our establishment with a call during the holiday season.

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the elegant stock of Fine Jewelry just received by J. R. REED & CO. for the Holidays, No. 93 MARKET STREET.

Miss Julia Rive

The announcement of Miss Rive's intention of giving a piano recital at the music rooms of C. C. Mellor, has caused quite a sensation among our musical people, who are very much gratified that the efforts to induce Miss Rive to play in this city before the holidays has been successful. Miss Rive is a pupil of Liszt, and is considered by musical critics the greatest lady pianist in America, her playing in Boston and other eastern cities creating quite a sensation. All who possibly can should embrace the opportunity to hear her.

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